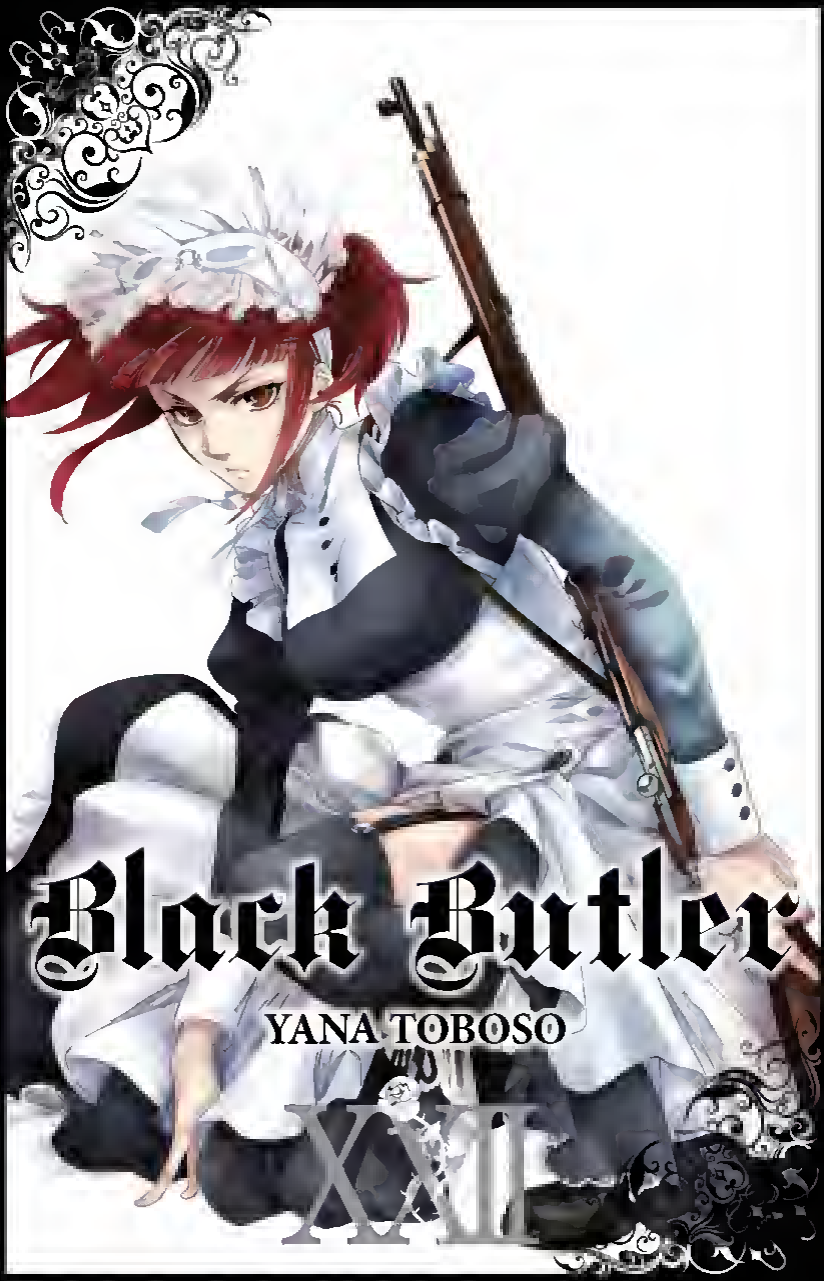
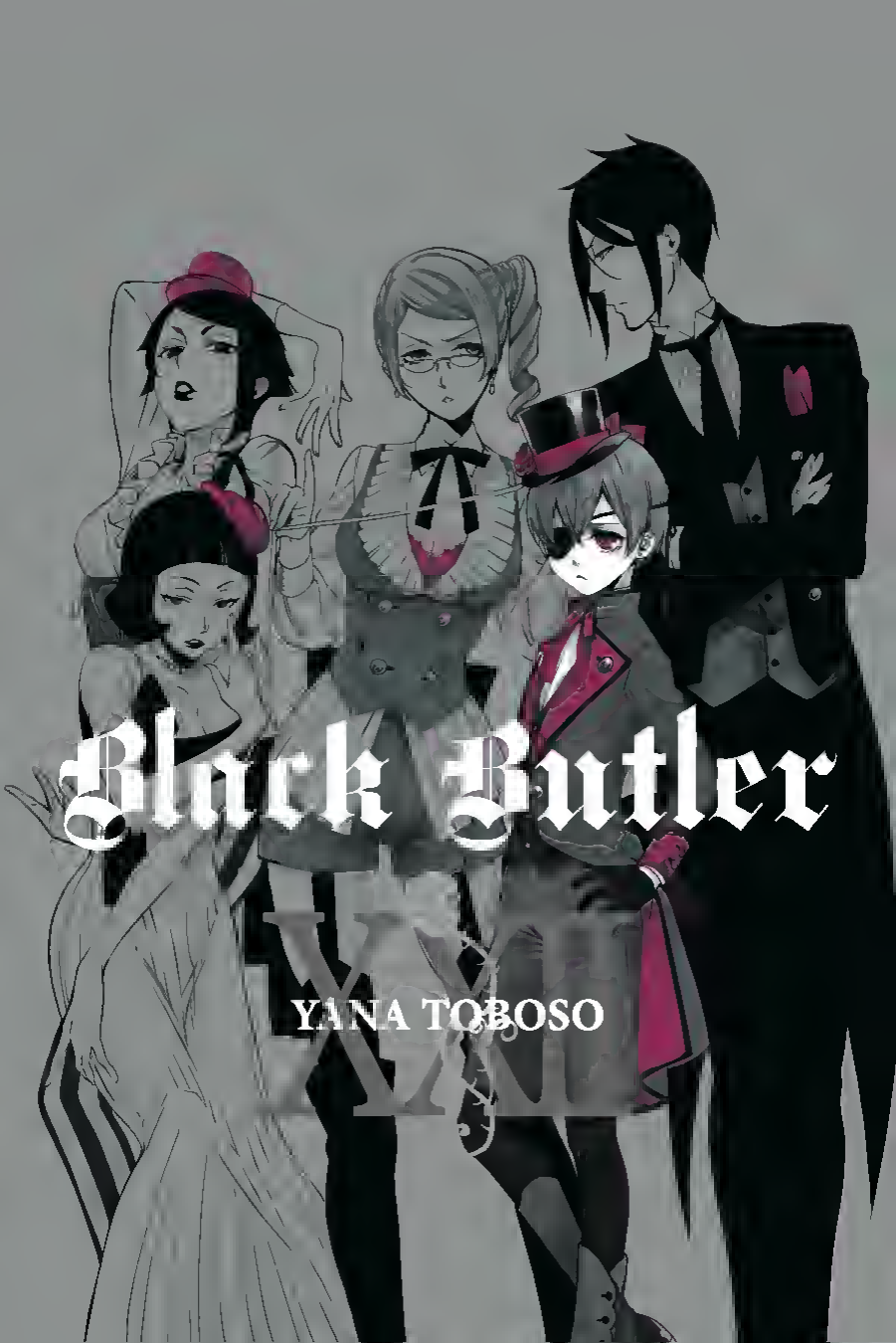

Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO
XVII


Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO

Contents

Chapter 104

In the morning ··· 3

The Butler, Disgraced

Chapter 105

At noon ·· 21

The Butler, Dropping In

Chapter 106

In the afternoon ·· 49

The Butler, Hearkening

Chapter 107

At night ·· 63

The Butler, Compelling

Chapter 108

At midnight ··· 101

The Butler, Underwater

Bonus Chapter

On a special day ·· 135

The Devil Six, Uninhibited

Chapter 104
In the morning: The Butler, Disgraced

MY WORLD CONSISTED SOLELY OF GREY.
I NEVER KNEW COLOURS OTHER THAN GREY EXISTED.
EVER SINCE I COULD REMEMBER, IT WAS ALL GREY, THE PEOPLE AND THE SCENERY ALIKE.
FIGHT, YOU STRAY MUTTS!!
FIGHT FOR THE STATE AND DEFEND IT TO THE DEATH!!

BUT...
ALL WE DID, WE DID IN DEFENCE OF THE STATE.
...I DIDN'T KNOW THE REASON WHY.

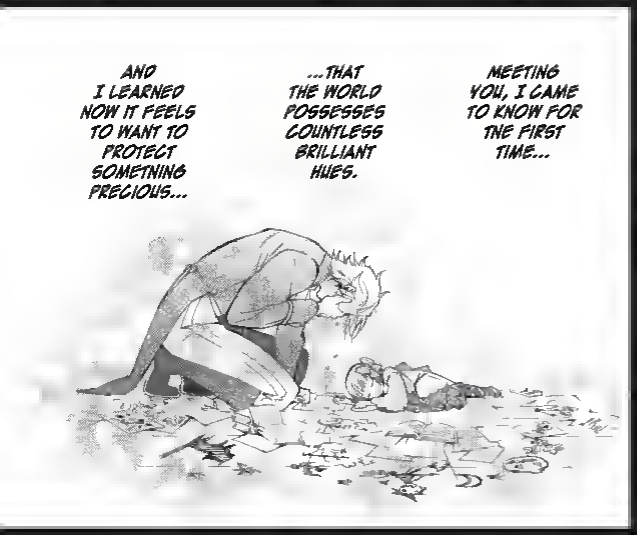
GOOD NEWS, SECOND LIEUTENANT.
YOU'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO A SPECIAL UNIT AS OF TODAY.
ACCORDINGLY, WE SHALL GIVE YOU A NAME.
TOP SECRET
Streng geheim
Grüne Hexe
Ausbildung Projekt
"FIRST LIEUTENANT WOLFRAM GELZER"...
...IS WHAT YOU SHALL CALL YOURSELF.

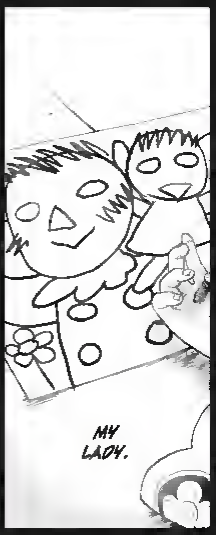
...TO WATCH AND GUARD THE EMERALD WITCH.
AND...

I, WHO HAD BEEN TRAINED SOLELY IN THE ART OF MURDER, WAS GIVEN A NEW MISSION...

...TO DISPOSE OF HER.
...IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY...
THIS MUST BE A JOKE.
NOT THIS.
NOT FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
I UNDERWENT TRAINING TO DEFEND THE STATE.

THIS...


AND I LEARNED NOW IT FEELS TO WANT TO PROTECT SOMETNING PRECIOUS...
...THAT THE WORLD POSSESSES COUNTLESS BRILLIANT HUES.
MEETING YOU, I CAME TO KNOW FOR THE FIRST TIME...



...AND WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE SOMETHING TO FIGHT FOR.

WOLF!!

MY...
...LADY...?

ゲホゲホッ
KOFF! KOFF!
DON'T SPEAK!
I...
...AM—
I—
ガタン
GATAN (GATHUNK)
GATAN ガタン
ゼ"ッ
ZEE (WHEEZE)
ZEEE ゼ"ーッ
HERR WOLFRAM.
...IS NOT PERMITTED TO DIE IN ADVANCE OF HIS MASTER.
A BUTLER ...

MEY-RIN! GET OUT ALL THE CLOTH AND WATER YOU CAN FIND!
SEBASTIAN, HEAT UP A KNIFE RED-HOT.
HOH!
—SO SAYS ...
...THE VETERAN BUTLER AMONGST US.
ZEE
AND GAG HIM SO HE DOESN'T BITE HIS TONGUE
HOLD HIM DOWN SO HE DOESN'T THRASH ABOUT.
YES, SIR!
ZE
PULL YOURSELF TOGETH-ER!!
HIC!
HIC!
N—
NO, WOLF!
YOU CAN'T DIIIIE!

IT'S THE DUTY OF THE EMERALD WITCH TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE.
YOU SAID AS MUCH YOURSELF!
THIS MAN HERE IS ALL THAT'S LEFT OF YOUR VILLAG-ERS.
YOU WON'T FIND MAGIC OR MIRACLES HERE IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
SO NOW YOU'RE GOING TO SAVE HIM.
GYU (CLUTCH)
WITH YOUR OWN HANDS!
WOLF ...
GIRI (GRIT)
HFF!
HFF!

...IF YOU DIE HERE ...
...I WILL NEVER ...
...EVER FORGIVE YOU...
...NOT FOR AS LONG AS I LIVE. DO YOU HEAR!!?
—GH!
JUWAA (SCORCH)

SHU
SHU (CHOO)
SHU
—THE BLEEDING HAS STOPPED FOR NOW.
IF WE CAN GET HIM THE PROPER TREATMENT SOMEWHERE ...
...HE SHOULD MAKE IT.
YOU HAVE FULFILLED YOUR DUTY MOST ADMIRABLY...
...MY LADY.
U...
UH...!
POTA (DRIP)
POTA
PETI (FLO...)
!
...!

AAAAAHN!
あああぁん
WAAAAAAHN!
わぁあああぁん
UWAAAAAHN!
うわぁあああぁん
DOSU (STOMP)
ドスッ
TAKING HIM TO HOSPITAL IS OUT, SINCE THEY'LL TRACK US DOWN.
DIEDRICH, LET US USE YOUR HIDEOUT.
EVEN IF I REFUSE, YOU'LL COME ANYWAY, WON'T YOU...!?
PASA (FLAP)
ぱさっ
GOOD GRIEF! LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON...
BUTSU (MUTTER)
ブツブツ
BUTSU
ブツ
THE OUTSIDE WORLD HAS MANY MONSTERS FAR MORE TROUBLE-SOME THAN WOLFMEN.
SHE COULD USE A GUARD DOG AT HER SIDE, DON'T YOU THINK? BESIDES WHICH...
HMPH.
YOU TELLING ME TO RETRIEVE HIM WAS RATHER A SURPRISE.

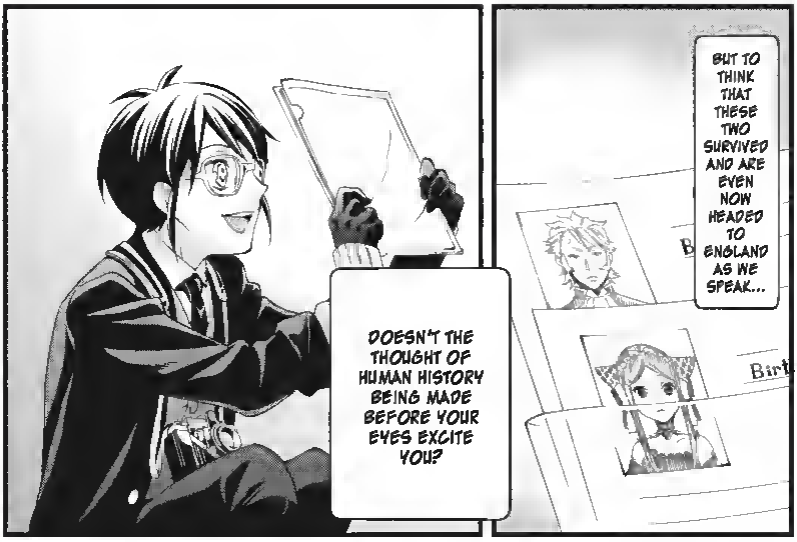
I SEE.
HEH!
...YOU REALLY ARE SUCH A WORRY-WART.
BUT TO REQUIRE INSURANCE WHEN YOU HAVE A DEVIL OF A BUTLER LIKE ME IN YOUR EMPLOY...
AGAINST BEING ELIMINATED FOR KNOWING TOO MUCH, THAT IS.
...SHE IS MY INSUR-ANCE.
DON'T BE ABSURD.
HA!
I TRUST YOU LEAST OF ALL.

Black Butler

Chapter 105
At noon : The Butler, Dropping In

Black Butler

HILDE DICKHAUT. BORN, 20 OCTOBER 1858.
DIED, 17 AUGUST 1889, AS A RESULT OF EXSANGUINATION.
NICE WORK.
THAT SHOULD DO IT FOR THIS JOB.
IN! DEEEED!
PON (STAMP)
REMARKS—
Abgelehnt Ablehnen
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR.


DOESN'T THE THOUGHT OF HUMAN HISTORY BEING MADE BEFORE YOUR EYES EXCITE YOU?
BUT TO THINK THAT THESE TWO SURVIVED AND ARE EVEN NOW HEADED TO ENGLAND AS WE SPEAK...

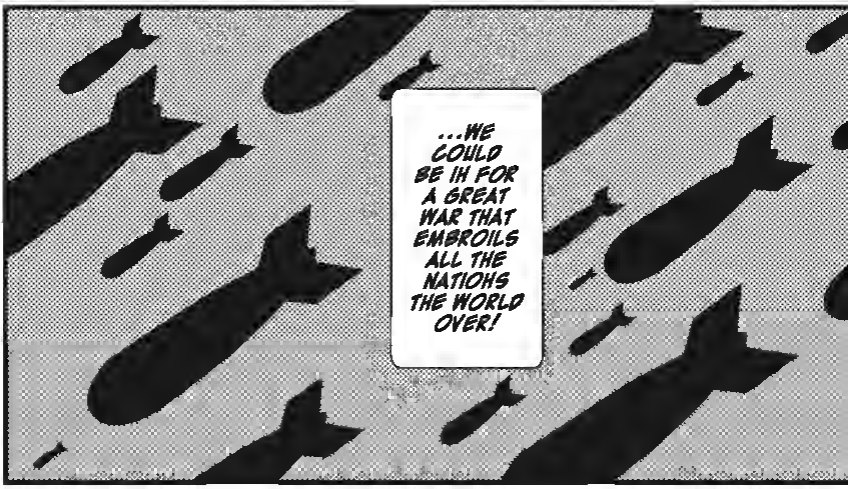
A NEW POISON GAS OF OVER-WHELMING LETHALITY AND ITS CREATOR—
THAT'S WHAT'S MAKING THE CROSSING TO ENGLAND, YOU SEE?

YOU SURE DO LIKE TO BLOW THINGS OUT OF PROPOR-TION, SASCHA.
IT'S JUST TWO HUMANS TRAVELLING TO ENGLAND ...

TSK. TSK. TSK!
YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT UTTERLY, HERR LUDGER!

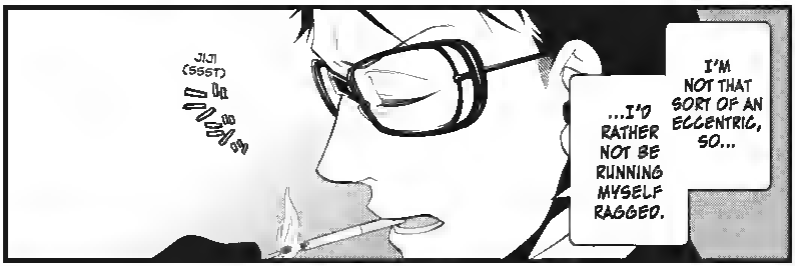
WHY, YOU COULDN'T DREAM UP A BETTER DETERRENT!
HERE WE GO AGAIN...
YIKES!
HUMANS, WHO WERE FIGHTING WITH SWORDS AND BOWS UNTIL JUST A FEW HUNDRED YEARS AGO...
...HAVE NOW DEVELOPED A POISON THAT CAN KILL SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE WITH A SINGLE DROP.
THE EVOLUTION OF MANKIND IS TRULY ASTOUNDING!
WHAT'S MORE, GENIUSES OF THIS CALIBRE ARE GARDEN-VARIETY ALL ROUND THE WORLD!
AAH!

RIGHT NOW, IF THE BALANCE OF POWER WERE TO CRUMBLE SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD...


...WE COULD BE IN FOR A GREAT WAR THAT EMBROILS ALL THE NATIONS THE WORLD OVER!

I'M SURE...
I'D MUCH PREFER IT TO SITTING AROUND TWIDDLING MY THUMBS!
UGH, THAT WOULD BE ROTTEN LUCK.

...THAT DEVILISH FRIEND OF OURS...
...IS OF THE SAME MIND!


I'M NOT THAT SORT OF AN ECCENTRIC, SO...
...I'D RATHER NOT BE RUNNING MYSELF RAGGED.
JIJI (SSST)

YO.
THANKS FOR COMING ALL THE WAY HERE.
I WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO CLOCK OUT IN A TIMELY FASHION GIVEN SUCH A SCENARIO.
ZA (STEP)
I MUST AGREE.

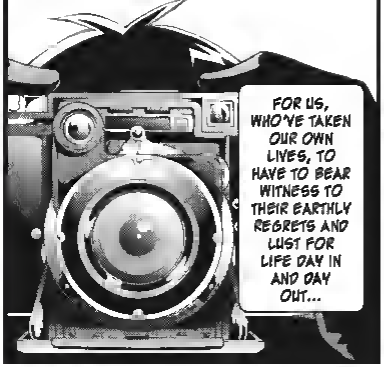
ZA (STEP)
WILLIAM.
GRELLE.
IT'S BEEN POSI-DEATHLY AAAGES! ★
HIIII! ♡
GOOD GRIEF.

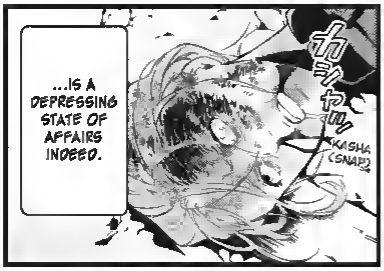
HERE ARE THE DOCUMENTS WE'RE MEANT TO BE HANDING OVER.
WHOOOA, YOU'RE AS FLASHY AS EVER, I SEE.
A CRIMSON COAT, HM...?
I'M THE ONLY LADY IN THE RETRIEVAL DIVISION OF THE BRITISH BRANCH.
IT'S AN ABSOLUTE MUST! ♡
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE BEEN MADE TO ENDURE THE DIS-PLEASURE OF A BUSINESS TRIP ALL THE WAY TO GERMANY ...
THE SUSPICIOUS GOINGS-ON OF LATE DON'T SEEM TO CARE A WHIT ABOUT NATIONAL BORDERS.
MY WORD.
I DO REGRET NOT GETTING TO SEE MY SEBASTIAN DARLING THOUGH.
I GOT TO TRAVEL WITH WILL, SO MY JOURNEY WAS DELIIIIGHTFUL!
OOH, OW!
BISH! (JAB)
SPEAKING OF SUSPICIOUS GOINGS-ON...
...WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE "MOVING CORPSES" THAT WERE PROVING AN ISSUE FOR THE BRITISH BRANCH?

IT APPEARS NO SUCH CASES HAVE YET BEEN REPORTED IN GERMANY, BUT...
...PLEASE INFORM THE BRITISH BRANCH IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE "DESERTER" IN QUESTION.
OUR INVESTIGATION IS ONGOING.
PACHIN (SNAP)

HOWW-I WHAT DO YOU SAY WE MAKE A LITTLE SIDE TRIP TO BAGEL BAKERY, MMM...?
DISH (WHAM)
OWW-!
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US.
TOODLES!♡

WE'VE HAD THE ODD "DESERTER" OR TWO IN THE PAST, BUT...
...I WONDER WHAT MAKES THEM WANT TO ESCAPE THE GRIM REAPER DISPATCH.
...OR MAYBE THEY HAD SPECIAL REASONS THAT FORCED THEIR HANDS.
I'VE NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT...
PO (PUFF)
PO
...MAYBE THEY JUST GOT TIRED OF THE JOB...
WE GRIM REAPERS WERE ONCE HUMAN TOO AND ALL.
WELL!
IT'S NOT LIKE THE IDEA'S TOTALLY FOREIGN TO ME!


FOR US, WHO'VE TAKEN OUR OWN LIVES, TO HAVE TO BEAR WITNESS TO THEIR EARTHLY REGRETS AND LUST FOR LIFE DAY IN AND DAY OUT...


...IS A DEPRESSING STATE OF AFFAIRS INDEED.
カシャ
KASHA (SNAP)

YOU SEEM ANYTHING BUT!
THAT'S RIGHT! I ENJOY EVERY DAY MUCH MORE THAN WHEN I WAS ALIVE! COULD BE I'VE FOUND MY LIFE'S CALLING!

BEING A GRIM REAPER IS THE FARTHEST THING FROM A LIFE'S CALLING IMAGINABLE!
HA HA!

HUMANS WHO HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE BECOME "GRIM REAPERS" AS PUNISHMENT.
WE'RE WORKED TO THE BONE UNTIL THE DAY WE'RE FORGIVEN ...
...A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE TO THE DEATHS OF MAN...

WELCOME HOME, HERR DIEDRICH.
BUT GOODNESS ME, I MUST SAY...

ほ"
ボロ (RAGS)
...YOU'VE GOTTEN INTO MORE THAN A SPOT OF MISCHIEF THIS TIME.

IT HAS BEEN QUITE SOME TIME SINCE WE LAST MET.
OH! HOW VERY NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
DOYA (RUSTLE)
HEINRICH, SEND FOR A PHYSICIAN.
AND PREPARE THE BATHS.
YES, SIR.
THEN HERE, WE MUST HAVE...
THAT'S RIGHT.
I AM HONOURED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, EARL PHANTOMHIVE.
OH! THE QUEEN'S ENGLISH..
INDEED. MUCH OBLIGED FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.
PHANTOMHIVE'S SON.
?
SO HE IS!
ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT ME..?

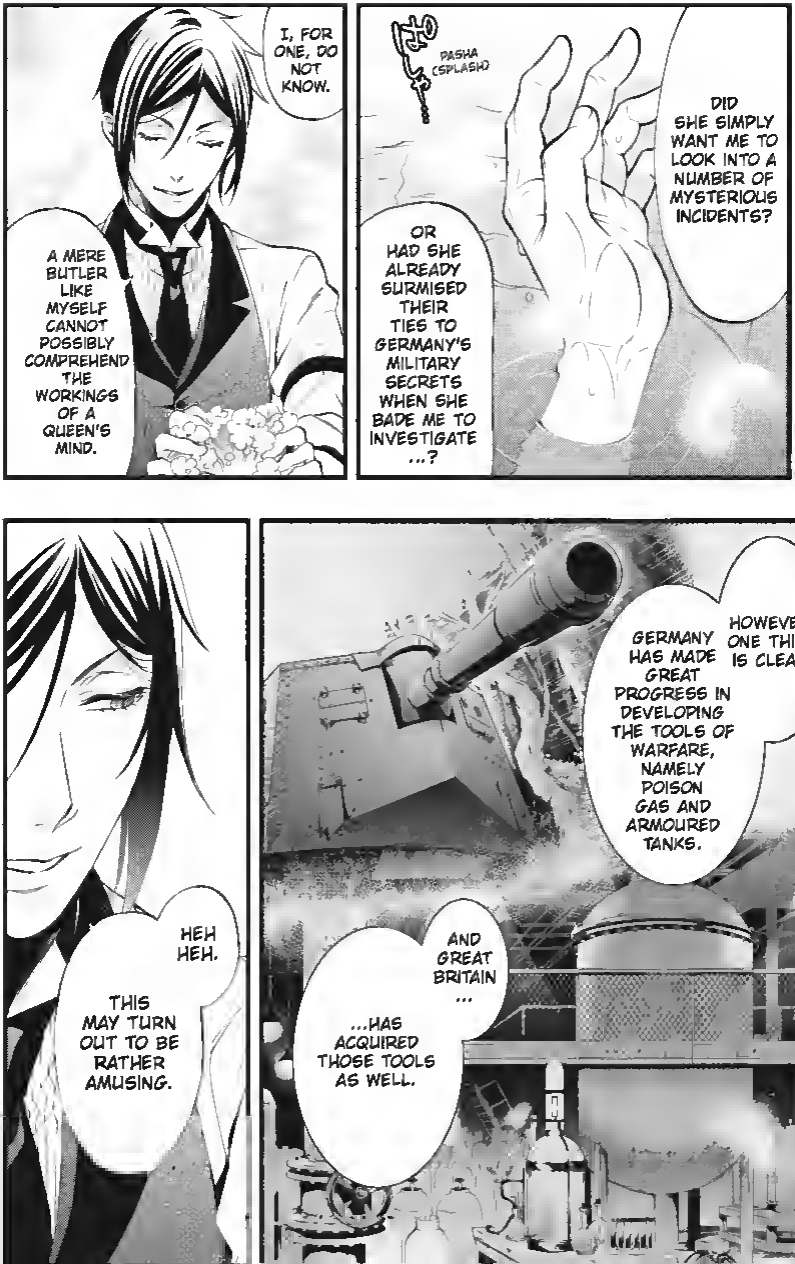
PLEASE DO EXCUSE MY ATTIRE..
URGH..
NIKO (SMILE)
I GLIMPSE QUITE A BIT OF THE PREVIOUS EARL IN YOU.
WOOOOW~!
THIS PLACE IS HUUUGE!
THIS CASTLE IS BUT ONE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE WEIZSÄCKER BARONY.

IT IS RATHER SMALL COMPARED TO THE PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE, BUT...
...PLEASE DO MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME.
RATHER SMALL?
YOU'RE ACTUALLY A SHELTERED YOUNG MASTER, AREN'T YOU?
WELL, ISN'T THAT THE POT AND THE KETTLE?

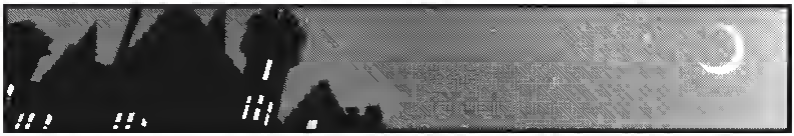
HERR HEINRICH, PLEASE ALLOW US TO HELP AS WELL.
YOU ARE TOO KIND.
THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INJURED, THIS WAY, PLEASE...
ざわ
ZAWA (MURMUR)

.....

IT SEEMS HERR WOLFRAM HAS PULLED THROUGH SAFELY.
NOW WE CAN BREATHE A LITTLE EASIER.
INDEED.
わし WASH!
..... わし WASH! (SCRUB)
NN.
BEG-GING YOUR PAR-DON, SIR.
KUCHU (SHLK)
THIS MAY SMART A BIT, BUT...
...PLEASE BEAR WITH IT.
KUCHU
I WONDER JUST HOW MUCH OF IT HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN HAD ANTICIPATED.
THIS CASE...


I, FOR ONE, DO NOT KNOW.
A MERE BUTLER LIKE MYSELF CANNOT POSSIBLY COMPREHEND THE WORKINGS OF A QUEEN'S MIND.
PASHA (SPLASH)
DID SHE SIMPLY WANT ME TO LOOK INTO A NUMBER OF MYSTERIOUS INCIDENTS?
OR HAD SHE ALREADY SURMISED THEIR TIES TO GERMANY'S MILITARY SECRETS WHEN SHE BADE ME TO INVESTIGATE ...?
HEH HEH.
THIS MAY TURN OUT TO BE RATHER AMUSING.
HOWEVER, ONE THING IS CLEAR.
GERMANY HAS MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING THE TOOLS OF WARFARE, NAMELY POISON GAS AND ARMOURED TANKS.
AND GREAT BRITAIN ...
...HAS ACQUIRED THOSE TOOLS AS WELL.

HEH!
HMPH!
"AMUSING" ISN'T THE WORD THAT COMES TO MIND!
NOW SHUT YOUR EYES.
ZASAAA (SHLOOSH)
UGH!
ZA (SPLOSH)
SO-CALLED HUMAN BEINGS REALLY DO CHANGE AT A DIZZYING PACE.
FASA (FLAP)
AND YET...
HAAAAA (SHIGH)
...I WONDER WHY THE YOUNG MASTER FAILS TO GROW ANY BIGGER.
THE LAST PERSON I WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM IS A DEVIL WHO HASN'T CHANGED IN CENTURIES.
GESHI (KICK)



THE UNDER-TAKER?
HE WAS JUST HERE.

WHAT WAS HE DOING IN GERMANY!?
IT SEEMS HE HAD SOME BUSINESS IN FRANCE AND DROPPED IN WHILE HE WAS AT IT.
I NEVER IMAGINED HE WAS INVOLVED IN THE SINKING OF THAT LUXURY LINER...

EH!?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE HE COULD BE?
NOT A ONE, I'M AFRAID.
IN FRANCE ...?
BUT—
YOUR VISITS TO OUR SIDE OF THE CHANNEL HAVE GROWN FEW.
IS IT TRULY BECAUSE THE EARL IS GONE?
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, MASTER DIEDRICH.
NOT SINCE HIS FUNERAL, I GATHERRR!
OR...

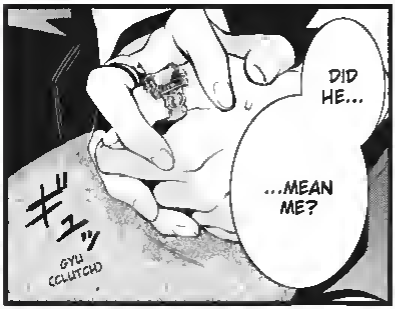
...IS IT BECAUSE IT'S GOTTEN HARD FOR YOU TO MOVE AROUND ...? BFFT ...!
GYAA- AAH! HA! HA! HA!
MUKA CIRKO
OHHH NOOOOO! I CAN'T HOLD IT IN ANYMOOORE!
HEEEEE
YOU CALLED HERE UNANNOUNCED JUST TO GET THAT IN, DID YOU, YOU SCOUNDREL!?
BUT I CAN HARDLY RECOGNISE YOUUU——
HOOOO!
HUMANS REALLY DO CHANGE IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, DON'T THEY?
JUST LOOK AT HOW VERRRRY SLENDER YOU USED TO BE!
DROP IT!!

NO NEED!!
SHALL WE GET STARTED ON THE MEASUREMENTS NOW, HMMMM?
YOUR COFFIN WILL HAVE TO BE BESPOKE, OR YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE!
I'M SURE...
...THE EARL WOULD LAUGH IF HE COULD SEE YOU NOW.
STOP IT. I REFUSE TO EVEN THINK ABOUT IT.
I'M RATHER RELIEVED HE DID US THE FAVOUR OF DY!—
...!

POOR THING.
HE BURNED DOWN TO THE MARROW OF HIS BONES.
WITH THAT MANNER OF DEATH, HE COULD NO LONGER...

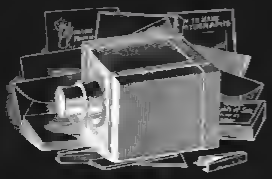
KOTO
COLACKO
ガチャ…
BUT...
AAH.
... "EARL PHANTOM-HIVE"...
...HE...
...STILL LIVES...
.....

"STILL LIVES"...
...HM?


DID HE...
...MEAN ME?
GYU CCLUTCHD

I CAN NEVER UNDER-STAND A WORD THAT FELLOW SAYS, SO...
...I HADN'T GIVEN IT MUCH THOUGHT, BUT...

OR—



Black Butler

CHAPTER 106

In the afternoon ~The Butler, Hearkening

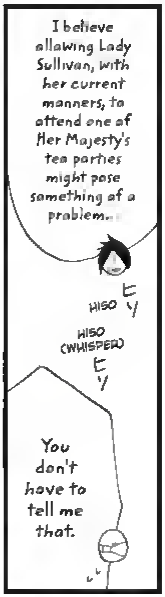
...“EARL PHANTOM-HIVE”...
...HE...
...STILL LIVES...
DID HE...
...MEAN ME?
OR—

SIR, DINNER IS READY.
WOULD YOU PREFER TO DINE HERE?
KACHA (KACHAK)
NO, NO. WE WILL GO THROUGH TO THE DINING ROOM.
KON (KNOCK)
KON
GACHA (KACHAK)
WHAT DO THE LOT OF YOU PLAN TO DO NOW?
MY DUTY WILL ONLY BE COMPLETE ONCE I'VE HANDED SULLIVAN OFF TO HER MAJESTY, SO...
...WE'LL RETURN TO ENGLAND AS SOON AS THE INJURED ARE ABLE.

GATSU
がっ
Y—
KEH-HEH
ANOTHER HELPING, PLEASE!
.....
GATSU
がっ

GATSU GOBBLE!
がつがつがつがつ
GATSU
GATSU
OHH, CIEL!
SORRY TO START WITHOUT YOU, BUT EVERYTHING I PUT IN MY MOUTH IS DIVINE!
C'MON, HURRY UP AND JOIN ME!

IN WHICH CASE, SHE MUST BE THOROUGHLY INSTRUCTED IN THE PROPER ETIQUETTE OF YOUNG LADIES UPON OUR RETURN TO ENGLAND.
I CAN HARDLY WAIT.
HEH HEH...


I believe allowing Lady Sullivan, with her current manners, to attend one of Her Majesty's tea parties might pose something of a problem...
HISO
HISO (WHISPER)
You don't have to tell me that.

I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
HER MAJESTY IS MOST EAGER TO MEET HER...
...SO MAKE SHORT WORK OF IT.
VERY GOOD, SIR.
ゾ
ZOWAWA (SHUDDER)
WHAT IS THIS CHILL ..!?
BURU (SHIVER)
ブ
ル
ッ
!?
ゎ
ッ
HIS RESILIENCE IS MOST ASTOUNDING.

.....
HIS STRENGTH IS WORKING IN HIS FAVOUR AS WELL, SO HE SHOULD BE BACK ON HIS FEET SOON.
GISHI (CREAK)
YOU...
...GO BY SEBAS-TIAN, YES?
WHY DID YOU SAVE ME?
THE YOUNG MASTER COM-MANDED I DO SO.
NIKO (SMILE)

HMPH
WILL-FULLY DECIDING THAT YOU'D DONE YOUR DUTY...
...AND LEAVING THIS MISTRESS OF YOURS IN THE CARE OF COMPLETE STRANGERS LIKE US IS THE HEIGHT OF IRRESPON-SIBILITY.
.....

GYU (CLUTCH)
HE DOESN'T NEED TO HEAR ALL OF THAT FROM YOU.
M—
MY LADY...
I...

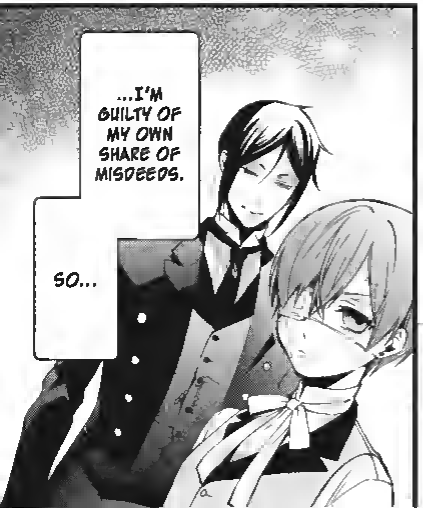
EH...?

I'M THE ONE WHO BETRAYED HIM FIRST.

I GAVE IN TO MY DESIRES AND INTENDED TO ABANDON EVERYONE.

WE SHALL ESCORT YOU INTO THE WORLD UNKNOWN
I...
...TOOK CIEL UP ON HIS OFFER TO SHOW ME THE OUTSIDE WORLD...
...AND ATTEMPTED TO LEAVE THE FOREST THAT NIGHT.
STILL MANY THINGS I WANT TO KNOW!!

BUT STILL, YOU...
...SAVED ME.

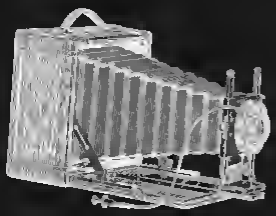

...I'M GUILTY OF MY OWN SHARE OF MISDEEDS.
SO...

IT'S NOT AS THOUGH I'M NOT ANGRY ABOUT YOU LYING TO ME ALL THIS TIME.
BUT...

...I'D SAY WE'RE EVEN!
MY LADY...
ARE YOU... SAY-ING YOU'LL FOR-GIVE ME ...?
ARE YOU TELLING ME I CAN CONTINUE TO SERVE YOU AS YOUR BUTLER, MY LADY ...?
YES.
SO TOUCHY
LET'S STAY TOGETHER ALWAYS.

...WOLFRAM.
LET'S GO SEE THE OUTSIDE WORLD TOGETHER FOR OURSELVES...

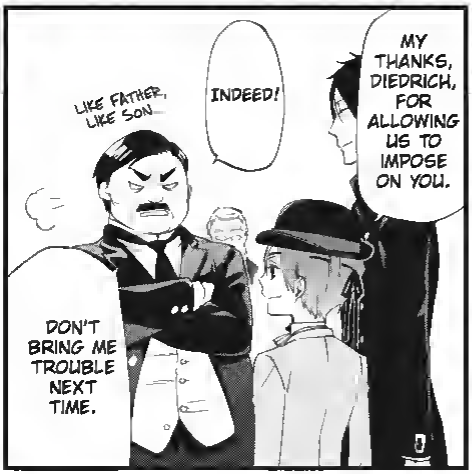
〈JA.〉



Black Butler

CHAPTER 107

At night : The Butler, Compelling


LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON
INDEED!
MY THANKS, DIEDRICH, FOR ALLOWING US TO IMPOSE ON YOU.
DON'T BRING ME TROUBLE NEXT TIME.

WOOOOW! YOU LOOK GREAT!
WOLFRAM
IN DISGUISE
BEAR WITH IT UNTIL YOU GET TO ENGLAND, YES!?
SULLIVAN

GOOD RIDDANCE!
WH—
WHAT IS THAT SMIRK FOR!?
SHOO! SHOO!
DON'T YOU EVER COME HERE AGAIN!

NEXT TIME?
ARE YOU INVITING ME TO VISIT YOU AGAIN?
NIYA GGRIND
ニヤニヤ
NIYA

THE TIMES ARE CHANGING RAPIDLY...
...SO TAKE CARE.
SON.
BUSHUUU (SHWOO)
YES.
YOU TOO.

ガヤ
GAYA
COLÂMOLLO
ガヤ

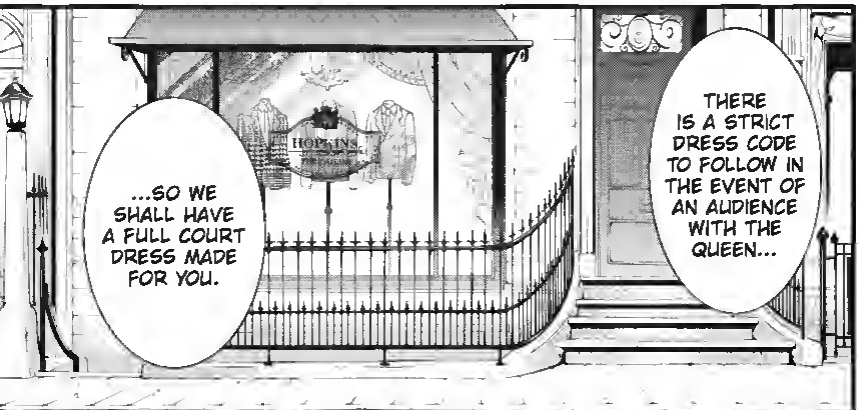
SO THIS...
...IS LONDON!
THIS IS THE CAPITAL OF THE EMPIRE ON WHICH THE SUN NEVER SETS...
...OVER WHICH QUEEN VICTORIA RULES.
YOU TWO.
USING GERMAN HERE WILL MAKE YOU STAND OUT.
PLEASE SPEAK ENGLISH FROM NOW ON.
SURE!
EH!?

I SHALL GIVE YOU INTENSIVE INSTRUCTION UPON OUR RETURN TO THE MANOR.
HEH HEH...
MY LADY IS ONE THING, BUT I CAN BARELY SPEAK A WORD OF IT, YOU KNOW!?
KOSO (WHISPER)
THEN MAKE DO WITH WHAT LITTLE ENGLISH YOU HAVE.
NOW, THEN.
I'M SURE HER MAJESTY CAN'T WAIT TO MEET SULLIVAN...
...SO I MEAN TO PRESENT HER TO THE QUEEN IN ONE WEEK.
ZAWA (CLAMOUR)
ONE WEEK?
ZAWA
IS THAT NOT PERHAPS A BIT TOO SOON ...?
SURELY, YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, CAN WHIP HER INTO SHAPE?
LOOK! WHAT'S THAT!?
THE METHODS YOU USE ARE ENTIRELY UP TO YOU.
I COMMAND YOU, SEBASTIAN.
TURN THAT ARTLESS URCHIN INTO A LADY WITHIN A WEEK!

RIGHT!
PAN (CLAP)
NI (SMILE)
YES, MY LORD.

CITY OF

FIRST, THE DRESS.
SEE YOU LATERRRRR!


...SO WE SHALL HAVE A FULL COURT DRESS MADE FOR YOU.
THERE IS A STRICT DRESS CODE TO FOLLOW IN THE EVENT OF AN AUDIENCE WITH THE QUEEN...

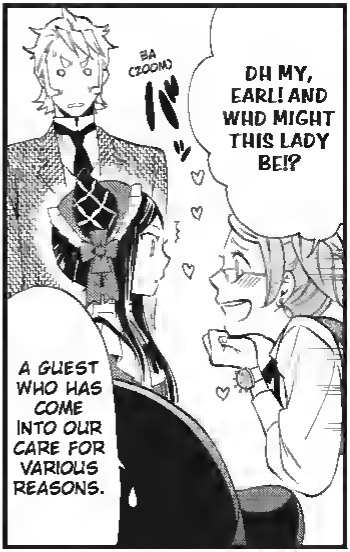
KARARAN (JINGLE)
HELLO!
WOOOOW.
WEL-COME...
...TO HOPKINS' TAILOR SHOP.
DON (BAM)
HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN AFTER SO LONG
WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A NUMBER OF PIECES MADE...
OF COURSE WE MUST HAVE THE CRAZY POSING...
!?
!?
DO (STOMP)
DO
DO
DO

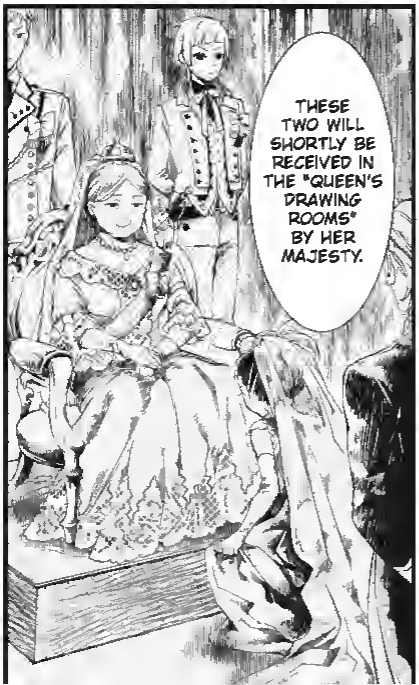
I SENSE THE PRESENCE OF A BEAUTIFUL BOY!!
IMPRESSIVE AS EVER, MISS HOPKINS.
.....
MEG! AUGUSTA!
WHO IS IT!?
HAN (WHAM)

OH MY, MY, EARL! IT'S BEEN QUIIITE A WHILE!
SU (SMOOSH)
SU
HOW UNUSUAL TO HAVE YOU COME TO THE SHOP!
MY!

OH!?
PIN (PING)
AKKE (GAPE)
あけ
HA HA.
AS USUAL, YOU IGNORE ME WITH SUCH GUSTO THAT IT IS ALMOST REFRESHING.

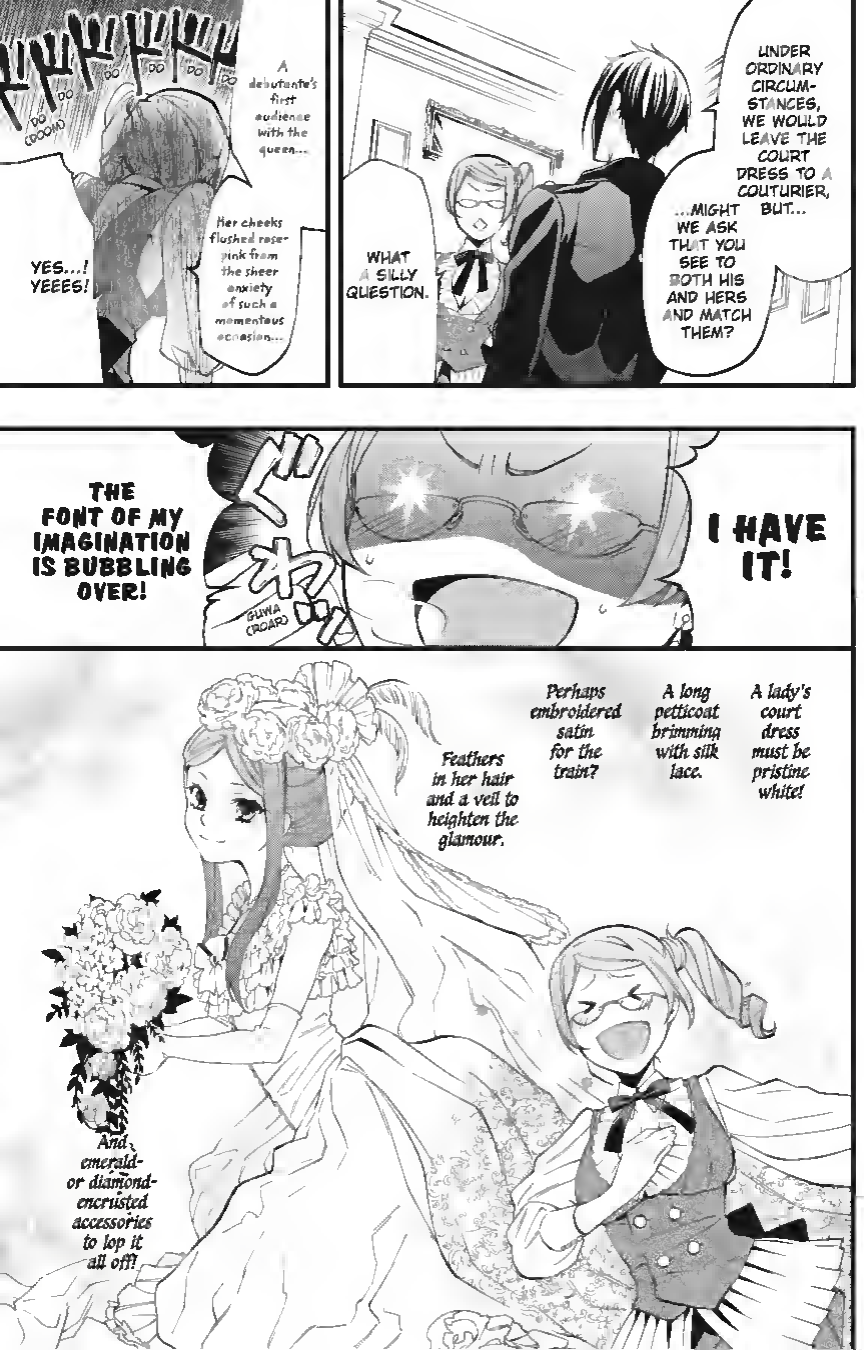
SHE'S WITHOUT A WARDROBE RIGHT NOW, SO I'D LIKE YOU TO MAKE HER SEVERAL OUTFITS.
FEEL FREE TO USE WHATEVER YOU HAVE ON HAND.
I SEE.
YES, THIS DRESS ISN'T MADE OF SUMMER FABRIC.
AND...

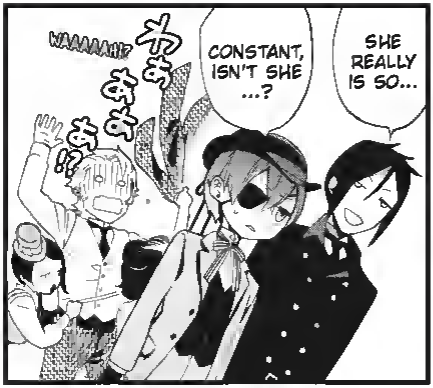

OH MY, EARL! AND WHO MIGHT THIS LADY BE!?
BA (ZOOM)
A GUEST WHO HAS COME INTO OUR CARE FOR VARIOUS REASONS.


THESE TWO WILL SHORTLY BE RECEIVED IN THE "QUEEN'S DRAWING ROOMS" BY HER MAJESTY.

ドスッ
DOSU (STAB)
DOSU
ドスッ
...THE QUALITY OF THE FABRIC ASIDE, THIS COLOUR IS FAR TOO PLAIN!
IT'S LIKE THIS GARB REEKS OF THE OUTDATED NOTION HELD DEAR BY MEN THAT WOMEN MUST BE THE PICTURE OF CHASTITY!

HUNH?
WE WERE IN RATHER A PINCH, SO...


A debutante's first audience with the queen...
Her cheeks flushed rosy pink from the sheer anxiety of such a momentous occasion...
YES...! YEEES!
DO DO DO DO DO DO DO DO DOOOM
UNDER ORDINARY CIRCUM-STANCES, WE WOULD LEAVE THE COURT DRESS TO A COUTURIER, BUT...
...MIGHT WE ASK THAT YOU SEE TO BOTH HIS AND HERS AND MATCH THEM?
WHAT A SILLY QUESTION.
I HAVE IT!
THE FONT OF MY IMAGINATION IS BUBBLING OVER!
GUWA
CRDARD
Feathers in her hair and a veil to heighten the glamour.
Perhaps embroidered satin for the train?
A long petticoat brimming with silk lace.
A lady's court dress must be pristine white!
And emerald- or diamond-encrusted accessories to lop it all off!


WAAAAHH!?
CONSTANT, ISN'T SHE ...?
SHE REALLY IS SO...

ZURU (DRAG) ZURU
OHH!?
COME, MY LADY! THIS WAY!
MEG AND AUGUSTA, TAKE THE MEASUREMENTS OF THE OTHER ONE.

PARDON THE MESS.
I'VE JUST RECEIVED A LARGE ORDER OF COSTUMES FOR A SINGING GROUP.
GASA
GASA (RUSTLE)

WHAT COLOURS SHALL I USE FOR YOUR DAY DRESSES, HMMM?
MAKING DO WITH WHAT'S HERE IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE ~!

MISS?
I HAVE A FAVOUR TO ASK...
THAT SHOULD DO IT FOR HER CLOTHING.
NEXT IS—
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
A LADY WHO HAS BEEN GRANTED AN AUDIENCE AND IS TO BE PRESENTED IN COURT MUST BE COIFFED IN A FORMAL STYLE, BUT...
...I THINK WE CAN REST EASY ON THAT POINT, AS LADY SULLIVAN ALREADY HAS LONG HAIR.

MY LADYYY !?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO YOUR HAIR!?
I SHAN'T HAVE LADIES-IN-WAITING FROM NOW ON!
SO I'M MAKING A FRESH START!
NIPA (SMILE)
WELL? DO I LOOK GOOD?
YES, YOU LOOK WOOD...
I THINK YOU MEAN "GOOD."
AAAARGH... SO MUCH FOR FORMAL STyyyLE.

WOMEN SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WEAR ANY HAIRSTYLE THEY FANCY TOO!
HOH HOH HOH!
BAAAN CHANG
THIS IS THE ALICE STYLE THAT'S CURRENTLY IN VOGUE WITH YOUNG GIRLS!

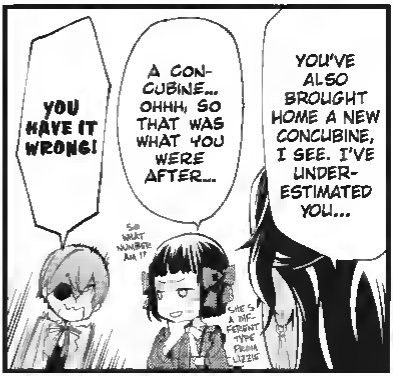
HAAH...
...UGH...
THERE IS NOTHING TO BE DONE.
LET US RETURN TO THE MANOR FOR NOW.

OH?
GI (GLARE)
MISTER HARD-HEAD, YOU'RE STILL HERE?
I BELIEVE I REPEATEDLY STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF PUTTING FORMALITY BEFORE FASHION...

WE HOPE YOU LOOK FORWARD TO THE DRESSES ~!

WELCOME HOME, EVERYONE!
CIEL!!
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU WENT ON A TRIP TO GERMANY!?
WHY DIDN'T YOU INVITE ME TO GO WITH YOOOOU!!?

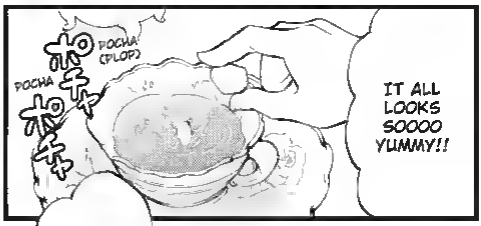
EVERYONE MUST BE TIRED FROM THE LONG JOURNEY.
AFTERNOON TEA WILL BE READY SHORTLY.


YOU'VE ALSO BROUGHT HOME A NEW CONCUBINE, I SEE. I'VE UNDER-ESTIMATED YOU...
A CON-CUBINE... OHHH, SO THAT WAS WHAT YOU WERE AFTER...
YOU HAVE IT WRONG!
SO WHAT NUMBER AM I?
SHE'S A DIF-FERENT TYPE FROM LIZZIE

IN ANY CASE, CIEL'S GUEST IS MY GUEST!
PREPARE A FEAST FOR DINNER, AGNI!
<JO AAGYAA!>

はわ
HAH-WAH
わわ...
WAH-WAH...
TODAY'S TEA IS HIGGINS'S EARL GREY.
AND IN ACCOMPANIMENT, WE HAVE ORANGE ALMOND CAKE AND BERRY TARTS.

ぱの
PASH! (WHAP)
STOP RIGHT THERE.
OWW !?


POCHA (PLOP)
POCHA
IT ALL LOOKS SOOOO YUMMY!!

THEN, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, I'LL HAVE—
SU (SWF)

DON (BAMO)
YOU MAY NOT USE VULGAR WORDS LIKE "YUMMY"!
YOU MUST NOT TAKE SUGAR WITH YOUR BARE HANDS!
DON
DON
IT IS ABSOLUTELY INEXCUSABLE TO REACH FOR A CAKE BEFORE IT HAS BEEN OFFERED TO YOU!
EEH!?
DO (DOOM)
DO
MY LADY.
YOUR LESSON IN PREPARATION FOR ATTENDING THE QUEEN'S TEA PARTY HAS ALREADY BEGUN.
PASHI (WHAP)
I WILL HOLD ON TO THESE CAKES UNTIL YOU HAVE PERFECTED YOUR MANNERS.
HYOI (PLUCK)
N-NOOO!!
AH WAH WAH...
YOUR FIRST LESSON IS ON THE SUBJECT OF TEA PARTY ETIQUETTE.
YOU WILL BE MADE TO TAKE LESSONS IN HOW TO BECOME A FINE LADY OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT WEEK.

HEY, YOU SWINE! YOU'VE MADE MY LADY CRY!
YOU MIGHT AT LEAST LET HER HAVE SOME CAKE ...
MISTER WOL-FRAM.
WHA—!?
NIKKORI (SMILE)
IF YOU WISH TO VOICE COMPLAINTS, PLEASE DO SO IN ENGLISH.
ONLY THEN WILL I LISTEN.

CIEEEEL! PLEASE SAY SOME-THING!
YEAH, CIEL! YOUR MAN IS TOO SCARY! DON'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR HER!?
DICTIONARY
PAKU (CHOMP)
AAAAH...
IF I SPOIL YOU LIKE THAT, YOU'LL NEVER IMPROVE.
JUST DO THE BEST YOU CAN.
TSUN (IGNORE)

EAT WITH MORE GRACE!
THAT BITE IS TOO LARGE!

ZU (SLURP)
ZU
DO NOT MAKE NOISES WHEN HAVING SOUP!

I SHALL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT FISH IS ON TOMORROW'S MENU.
I WANNA EAT PORK TOMORROW—
I MEAN, I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE—
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM VOICING YOUR PERSONAL REQUESTS IN A SETTING LIKE THIS.

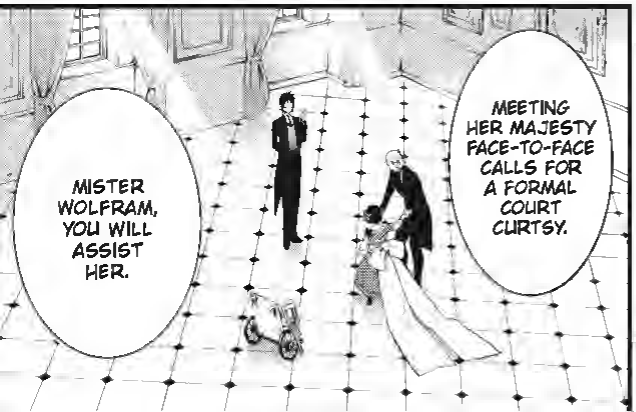
NO, MISTER AGNI!
MORE, PLEASE...
LADIES ARE STRICTLY FORBIDDEN TO ASK FOR A SECOND HELPING.

SUTA (STRIDE) ZAZA SUTA
UH. UM...
GUWA (GUARD)
HEY, YOU SWINE! HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT TO MY LA—
IN ENGLISH, PLEASE.
TSUN (CLOOP)
RETURN TO YOUR VILLAGE IF YOU WANT. I'M FINE WITH THAT.
KII (SCREECH)
I'M EVEN MORE BOUND HERE THAN I WAS IN THE VILLAGE !!
IT'S RED.
YOU SAW IT RIGHT NOW!
SHIRE (COLD)
IS THAT ANY WAY TO SPEAK TO A FRIEND?
WHAT COLOUR IS THE BLOOD IN YOUR VEINS!?

PUNSUKA (HUFF)
プンスカ!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH. I WON'T ASK FOR YOUR HELP ANY-MORE!
THAT'S FOR THE BEST.
MUUUUUUU (SULK)
むぅぅぅ
GACHA (KACHA)
ガチャ
WHAT NOW?
WEREN'T YOU DONE WITH ASKING FOR MY HEL—
BATAN (SLAM)
バタン!!
...AH.
IT'S ONLY YOU.

YOU COULD HAVE AT LEAST HEARD HER OUT.
(KACHA (CLINK)
カチャ…
HER FUTILE GRUMBLING, YOU MEAN?
THE WORK HAS PILED UP WHILE I WAS AWAY
BESIDES, I RECALL LEAVING HER TO YOU.
I'M BUSY.
BASA (FLAP)

……
IS THAT SO?

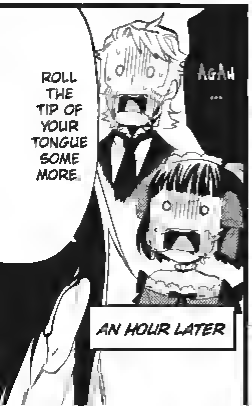

MEETING HER MAJESTY FACE-TO-FACE CALLS FOR A FORMAL COURT CURTSY.
MISTER WOLFRAM, YOU WILL ASSIST HER.

NOW, DRAW IN YOUR CHIN AND SMILE WITHOUT SHOWING YOUR TEETH.
DO YOUR BEST!
NIGO (GRIMACE)
I AM HONOURED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, YOUR MAJESTY ...
PON (SMACK)
ぽんっ
...THAT WILL DO FOR NOW.
HOWEVER, THERE IS THE SMALL PROBLEM OF YOUR PRONUNCIATION.
OH! I HAVE JUST THE THING.
PURU (SHAKE)
プル
PURU
プル

DON (BANG)

NIKO (SMILE)
ONCE YOU CAN DO IT WELL, YOU SHALL HAVE A BREAK AND SNACKS.

PLEASE REGARD THE MIRROR CAREFULLY
HHAH HISH KHIZH !?
IT WILL ALLOW YOU TO OBSERVE PRECISELY THE MOVEMENTS OF YOUR TONGUE TO LEARN THE CORRECT PRONUNCIATIONS.


AGAH ...
ROLL THE TIP OF YOUR TONGUE SOME MORE.
AN HOUR LATER

SWAH ...
TOUCH THE TIP OF YOUR TONGUE TO THE ROOF OF YOUR MOUTH.
HALF AN HOUR LATER

MY LADY?
GUUU (GROWL)
KYURURU (RUMBLE)
BURU (TREMBLE)
BURU
DOKAAAN (KABOOM)
ドカ
○×□※
☆▽■～
～～～!!!
BIKU (JUMP)
BAN (SLAM)
!?
AH.
MY LADY?
DASH
HY HAEHEY!

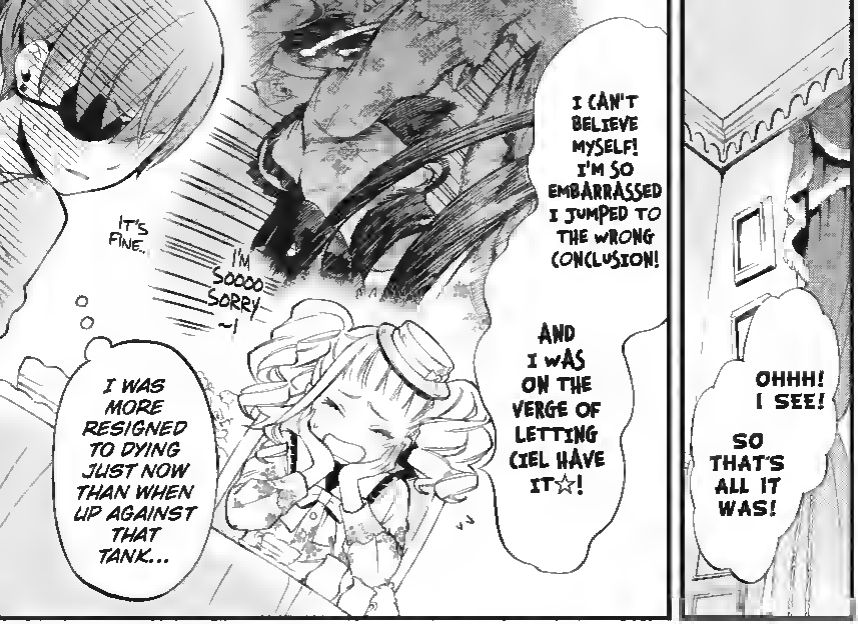
SORRY... ARE YOU QUITE ALL RIGHT!?
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THAT IN YOUR MOUTH!?
GAKU (SHAKE)
GAKU
△☆□●◎※!!
HEY!
GUDA (TROPPLE)
UWAH!!
GOCHI (TUMBLE)
DOTAAAN (KERSPLAT)

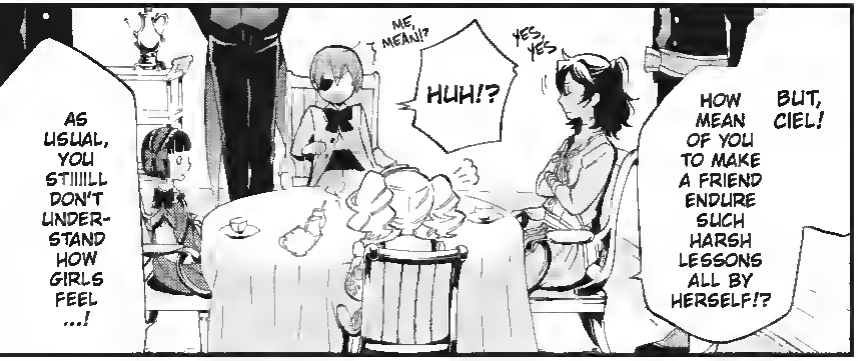
I HEARD YOU'D JUST GOTTEN BACK FROM YOUR TRIP, SO I THOUGHT I'D DROP IN...
GACHA (KACHAK)
CIEEEL!!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM!!? FORCING MY INNOCENT MOUTH WIDE OPEN LIKE THAT!!
NAAAAH!!!
WHAT EXACTLY WAS HE TRYING TO SHOVE INTO IT!!?
HUNH?

...FOR A LARK—
GO (RUMBLE)
GO
GO
GO
GO
GO
SO THIS IS THE WORK ...
...YOU WERE DOING IN GERMANY ...?
DHH... HMMM ...
JUST LET ME EXPL...
AH!
NO...! LIZZIE, THIS ISN'T...

ZUA (VOOM)
DAN (LEAP)
SUWA CLUNG!

BASH!
(THWAP)
THERE IS A REASON FOR THIS...
PLEASE WAIT, MY LADY.


I CAN'T BELIEVE MYSELF! I'M SO EMBARRASSED I JUMPED TO THE WRONG CONCLUSION!
AND I WAS ON THE VERGE OF LETTING CIEL HAVE IT☆!
OHHH! I SEE! SO THAT'S ALL IT WAS!
IT'S FINE..
I'M SOOOO SORRY~!
I WAS MORE RESIGNED TO DYING JUST NOW THAN WHEN UP AGAINST THAT TANK...


BUT, CIEL!
HOW MEAN OF YOU TO MAKE A FRIEND ENDURE SUCH HARSH LESSONS ALL BY HERSELF!?
YES, YES
ME, MEAN!?
HUH!?
AS USUAL, YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW GIRLS FEEL ...!

EVEN DIFFICULT LESSONS CAN BE FUN WITH EVERYONE'S ENCOURAGEMENT!
IS THAT RIGHT?
I KNOW!
PON (SMACK)

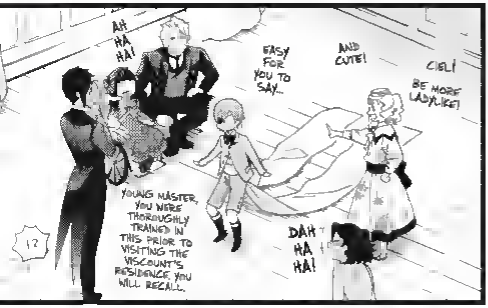
PFFT
WHY MUST EVEN I JOIN IN!?
THE ETIQUETTE REQUIRED OF MEN AND WOMEN IS DIFFERENT...
SHE'S YOUR FRIEND, SO IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING!
UGH ...!

MIGHT BE FUN
OH!
THAT SOUNDS GOOD!
WHY DON'T WE ALL TAKE PART IN THOSE LESSONS TODAY!?
HUNH!?

Y...
YES.

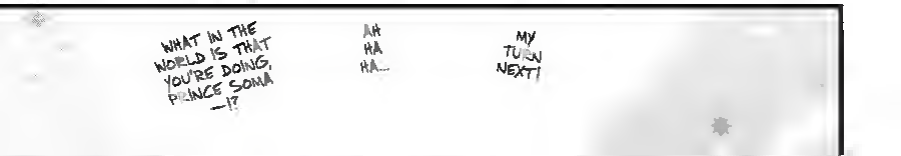
I HOPE I GET TO GO SOMEDAY SOON MYSELF!
SO LET'S DO THOSE LESSONS TOGETHER AND MAKE YOU INTO A SPLENDID LADY, ALL RIGHT!? ♡
I ENVY YOU!
ALL THE GIRLS IN ENGLAND DREAM OF BEING INVITED TO THE QUEEN'S DRAWING ROOMS!

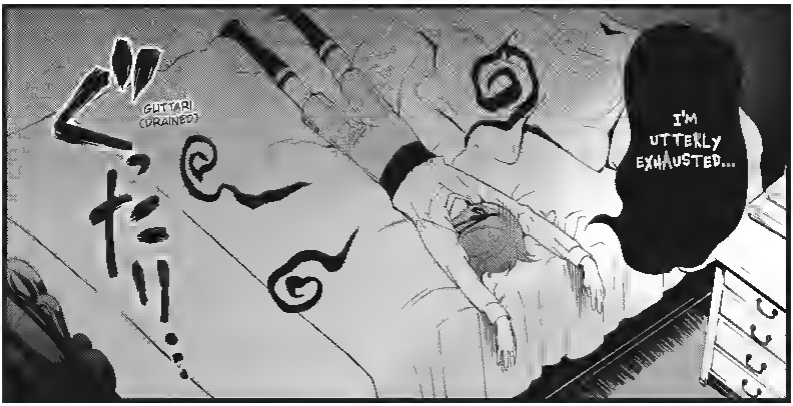
OH!
CALL ME LIZZIE, WON'T YOU?
MAY I CALL YOU SULLY?
AH...!
OH.
YEAH!


AH HA HA!
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY...
AND CUTE!
CIEL!
BE MORE LADYLIKE!
YOUNG MASTER, YOU WERE THOROUGHLY TRAINED IN THIS PRIOR TO VISITING THE VISCOUNT'S RESIDENCE. YOU WILL RECALL...
DAH HA HA!
17

NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED, WE'VE NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE! ON TO THE LESSONS!
おっ!!
YAAAY!!
YEEEEAH!!

WHAT WAS THAT!?
I CAN DO IT BETTER THAN CIEL!


WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THAT YOU'RE DOING, PRINCE SOMA—!?
AH HA HA...
MY TURN NEXT!


GUTTARI (DRAINED)
I'M UTTERLY EXHAUSTED...

I LEARNED ALL OF THAT STUFF ON MY OWN, YOU KNOW.

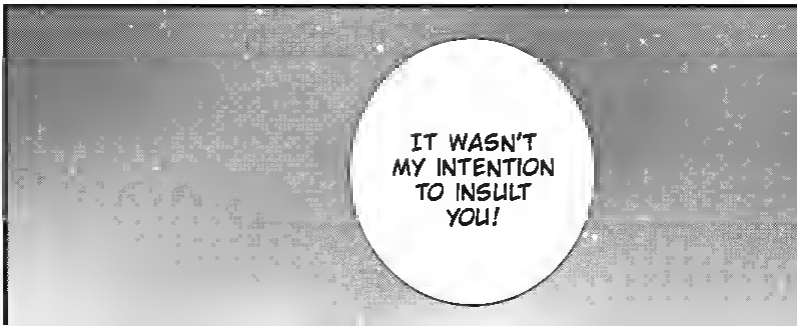
I HAD TO SIT THROUGH ONE OF LIZZIE'S LECTURES. HOW WRETCHED ...
I'M SURE YOU WERE SO PREOCCUPIED WITH YOUR WORK.
THAT YOU LEFT ALL THIS TO SEBASTIAN!!
UEGH !

THAT IS WHY...
HEH!
...I SUGGESTED YOU BE A LITTLE MORE COMPASSIONATE.

IT IS CRUEL TO EXPECT THE SAME OF OTHERS.
YES, BUT YOUR SENSIBILITIES ARE DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ORDINARY HUMANS, YOUNG MASTER.
HMPH
YOU THINK ME HEARTLESS TOO, DO YOU?
HEH!
IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION TO INSULT YOU.
IT IS BECOMING IN ONE WHO WOULD BE A LEADER OF MEN.
BUT IF YOU YOURSELF ARE CONSCIOUS OF IT, PLEASE TRY TO SHOW SOME MORE EMPATHY FOR OTHERS.

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU GIVE A DAMN ABOUT THE FEELINGS OF HUMANS.
ONE COMMAND, AND YOU'LL DO ANYTHING, NO MATTER HOW BRUTAL. THAT'S THE KIND OF BEAST YOU ARE.
PARA (FALL)
HMPH!

HA!
I ASSURE YOU I AM STILL A DEVOTED AND OBEDIENT BUTLER TO MY MASTER.
OH MY. HOW VERY UNKIND.


IT WASN'T MY INTENTION TO INSULT YOU!

Black Butler

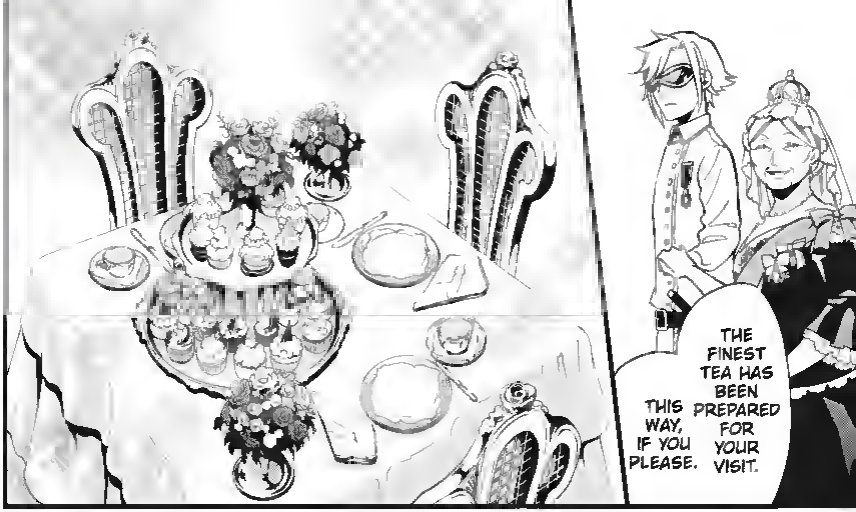
CHAPTER 108
At midnight : The Butler, Underwater

YOU MUST BE LADY SIEGLINDE SULLIVAN, WHO HAS BEEN GRANTED A SPECIAL AUDIENCE WITH HER MAJESTY TODAY.
WE SHALL SHOW YOU THE WAY, SO COME ALONG.
KACHIN (STIFF)
カチン
OH...! Y—
YES!
KOCHIN (WOODEN)
コチン
WILL SHE BE ABLE TO PULL THIS OFF?
MY LADY IS NERVOSE.
HARA (SWEAT)
ハラハラ
HARA
YOU MEAN "NERVOUS"

AREN'T YOU COMING?
I MUST SEE TO ANOTHER TASK BY ORDER OF THE YOUNG MASTER.
NIKO (SMILE)
WELL, WHAT DO I CARE?
OHH ...?

GIIII
(CREAK)
TO
(STEP)
SU
(LIFT)

I AM HONOURED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAIN-TANCE, YOUR MAJESTY.
I AM SIEGLINDE SULLIVAN.
MY! WHAT A LOVELY CURTSY.
HOW WONDERFUL TO FINALLY MEET YOU, MISS WITCH.
PHEW-!
WEL-COME TO GREAT BRIT-AIN.
I HOPE YOU WILL FIND THIS LAND AND ITS PEOPLE MOST AGREE-ABLE.


THE FINEST TEA HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR YOUR VISIT.
THIS WAY, IF YOU PLEASE.

BOSO (MUMBLE)
HISO (WHISPER)
Keep it to one...
MISS WITCH, HOW MUCH SUGAR DO YOU TAKE IN YOUR TEA?
I know!
HISO
OH!
JUST ONE, PLEASE.

HAH-WAH-WAH-
WAH-
EACH OF PHIPPS'S CAKES IS TREMENDOUS.
PLEASE HELP YOURSELF.

YES, YOUR MAJESTY.

WELL, MY BOY.
WON'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR TRAVELS?

THE GERMAN ARMY HAD ALREADY PHASED THE GAS INTO ACTUAL COMBAT.
...WAS "MUSTARD GAS," THE DEVELOPMENT OF WHICH WAS ABANDONED BY GREAT BRITAIN DUE TO ITS LETHALITY.
—THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE CURSE OF THE WERE-WOLVES' FOREST ...

I AM CERTAIN HER INTELLECT WILL BE A GREAT BOON TO THE PROGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE ONE WHO MADE THAT POSSIBLE IS THE EMERALD WITCH...
...SULLIVAN, HERE.

SO LITTLE MISS WITCH HAS TURNED OUT TO BE A MOST MARVELOUS WITCH.

...YOU HAVE EVEN GREATER SPELLS IN YOUR REPER-TOIRE?
...THEN PERHAPS ...
KACHA COLINKO
IF YOU ARE INDEED SUCH AN AMAZING WITCH...
.....
...I AM AFRAID NOT...
...YOUR MAJESTY.

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DISCUSS?
OF COURSE I DO!
DURING OUR ESCAPE FROM THE FOREST ...
...YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE OF DEVELOPING A MAGICAL CURE.
DO YOU STILL FEEL THAT WAY?
!!
THEN, WHEN THE QUEEN RECEIVES YOU TOMOR-ROW...
...GIVE HER THE FORMULA FOR SYNTHESISING MUSTARD GAS.

WAIT!
BUT THEN MY LADY WILL JUST BE MADE TO PRODUCE POISON GAS YET AGAIN!
AFTER ALL, THEY ALREADY KNOW THAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF MAKING MUSTARD GAS
ENGLAND WILL THEN BE FORCED TO AFFORD YOU EVERY COURTESY.
LADY SULLIVAN IS IN POSSESSION OF BOTH A COLOSSAL, WORLD-CLASS "TALENT"...
...AND "INFORMATION" THAT WILL ALLOW HER TO NEGOTIATE THE BEST TERMS FOR HERSELF INTERNATIONALLY—
WHETHER OR NOT SHE UTILISES THOSE ASSETS EFFECTIVELY IS UP TO HER.
IT IS UP TO LADY SULLIVAN TO DECIDE WHETHER TO USE OR BE USED IN THIS SITUATION.
!!

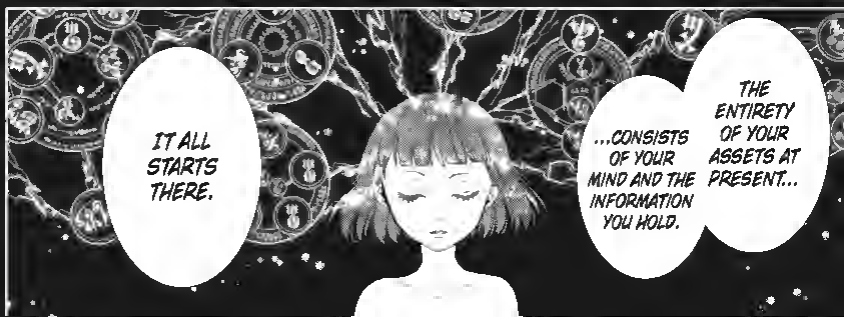
BUT...
...BECAUSE YOU'RE MY FRIEND. I'M ALSO CERTAIN OF ONE THING.
...BECAUSE YOU'RE MY FRIEND.
I WON'T STOP YOU IF YOU WANT TO BECOME A DOCTOR AND LIVE QUIETLY IN A REMOTE VILLAGE WITH WOLFRAM.
BUT...
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP LEARNING.
...THE MORE YOU'LL WANT TO APPLY THEM TO THE CREATION OF SOMETHING BRAND-NEW.
THE MORE OF THEM YOU GAIN...
NEW EXPERIENCES.
NEW KNOWLEDGE.

.....

NEW KNOWL-EDGE...
UZU (EAGER)
ウヒ...

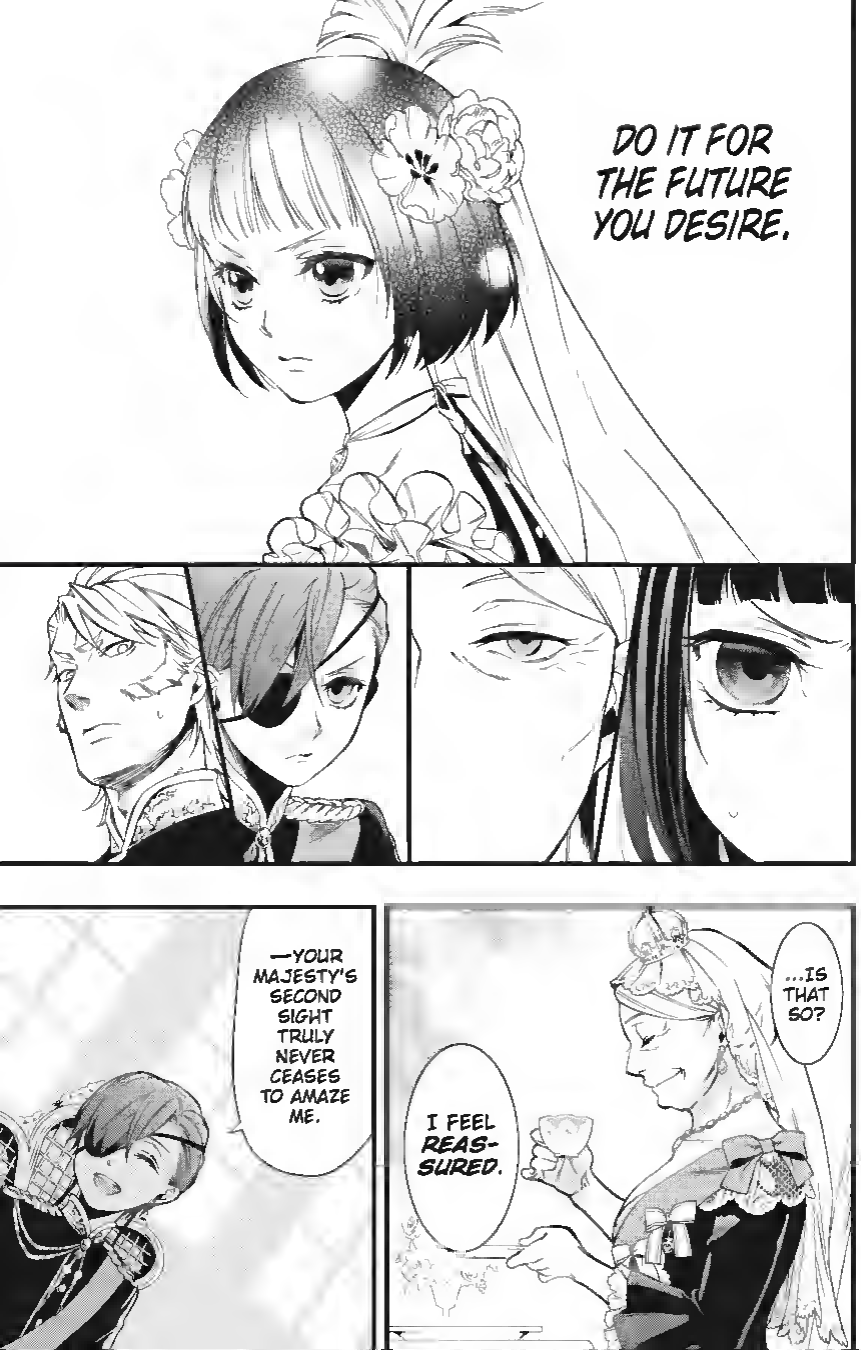
I VERY MUCH DOUBT YOUR TOWERING GIANT WILL BE ABLE TO RAISE THAT KIND OF MONEY.
HE'S JUST TOO CLUMSY.
URGH ....
GAN (SHOCK)
ガーン

BUT SUCH ENDEAVOURS REQUIRE FUNDING
IN THE SAME WAY WOLFS-SCHLUCHT WAS RUN...
...YOU'LL NEED CAPITAL OF A MAGNITUDE THAT CAN ONLY BE PROVIDED BY A NATION.

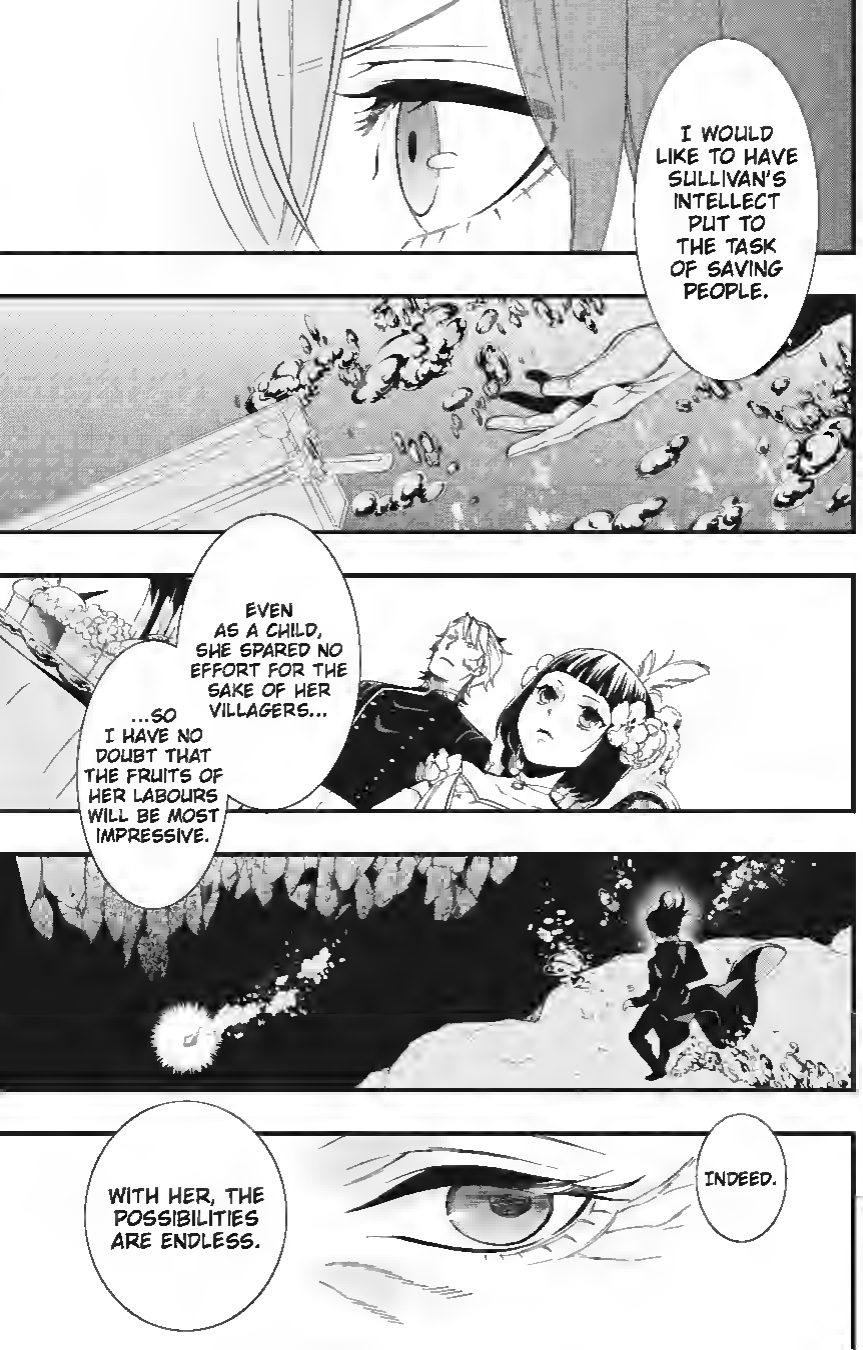

IT ALL STARTS THERE.
...CONSISTS OF YOUR MIND AND THE INFORMATION YOU HOLD.
THE ENTIRETY OF YOUR ASSETS AT PRESENT...

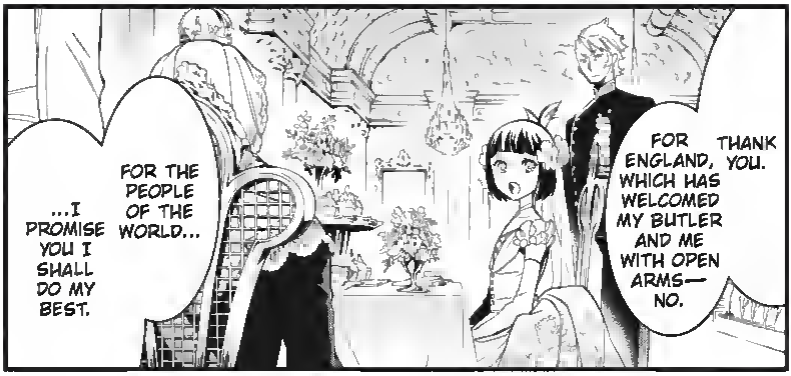
...TAKE CARE TO NEVER DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT "SULIN."
トン (TAP)
BUT...
THE LETHALITY OF MUSTARD GAS CANNOT COMPARE WITH THAT OF SULIN.
IF GREAT BRITAIN WERE TO PUT IT TO PRACTICAL USE—
WELL, SOMEONE AS BRIGHT AS YOURSELF COULD SURELY FORESEE THE OUTCOME OF SUCH A SITUATION?
!

SuLIN CAN'T SAVE A SINGLE PERSON IN THIS WORLD.
NOR CAN IT SAVE YOU.
ZOKU (SHUDDER)
...I UNDER-STAND.
I'LL TAKE SuLIN, MY ULTIMATE SPELL, TO THE GRAVE.
...YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL OF THEM.
AND IN TURN...
THAT INCLUDES ME.
FROM NOW ON, CONSIDER EVERYONE YOU MEET AN ENEMY WHO WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOU.
NEVER FORGET THIS.


DO IT FOR THE FUTURE YOU DESIRE.
—YOUR MAJESTY'S SECOND SIGHT TRULY NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME.
I FEEL REASSURED.
...IS THAT SO?

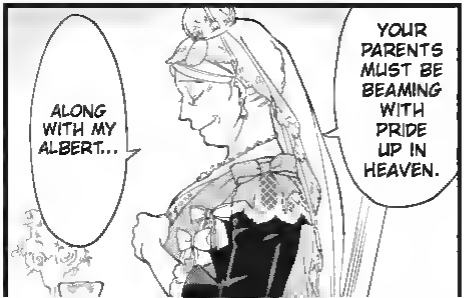
I TOO WAS ASTONISHED TO DISCOVER THAT THE TRUE NATURE OF THE CURSE...
...WAS POISON GAS.
COME, MY BOY.
YOU KNOW I SIMPLY DON'T DO WELL WITH FRIGHTENING THINGS.

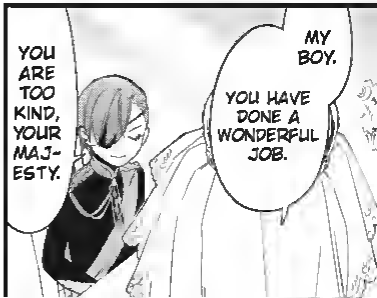

I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SULLIVAN'S INTELLECT PUT TO THE TASK OF SAVING PEOPLE.
EVEN AS A CHILD, SHE SPARED NO EFFORT FOR THE SAKE OF HER VILLAGERS...
...SO I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE FRUITS OF HER LABOURS WILL BE MOST IMPRESSIVE.
WITH HER, THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS.
INDEED.


THANK YOU.
FOR ENGLAND, WHICH HAS WELCOMED MY BUTLER AND ME WITH OPEN ARMS— NO.
FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD...
...I PROMISE YOU I SHALL DO MY BEST.

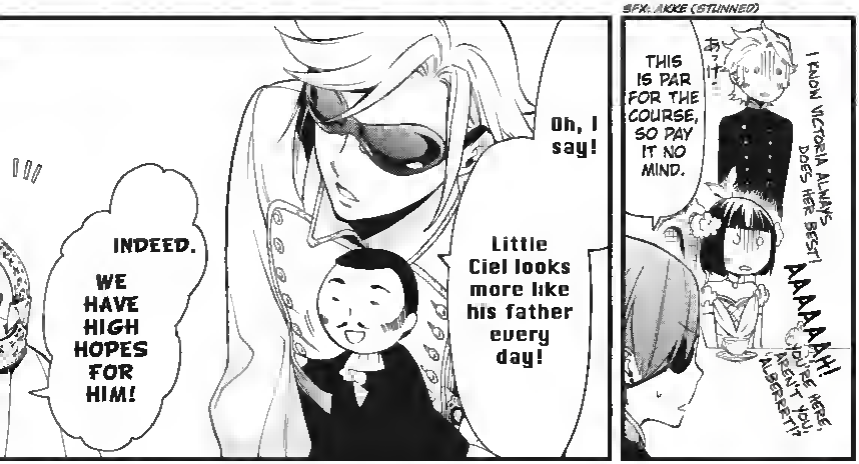
THE FUTURE OF GREAT BRITAIN SHINES ON!

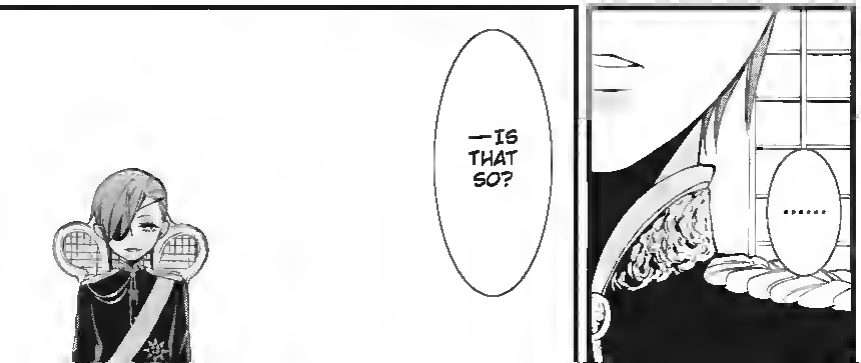
AAH... HOW SPLENDID!
HOW VERY SPLENDID, INDEED!


YOUR PARENTS MUST BE BEAMING WITH PRIDE UP IN HEAVEN.
ALONG WITH MY ALBERT...


MY BOY.
YOU HAVE DONE A WONDERFUL JOB.
YOU ARE TOO KIND, YOUR MAJESTY.

BIKU (JOLT)
WON'T YOU KEEP WATCHING OVER ME TOO, MY DEAREST!? I BEG YOOOU!!
わっっっ WAH!!!
BITAAAN (BANG)
SA (SHP)
AAAAH! ALBERR-RRRRT!


SFX: AKKE (STUNNED)
I KNOW VICTORIA ALWAYS DOES HER BEST!
AAAAAAH! DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU'D BE HERE, ALBERT!!
あっけ
THIS IS PAR FOR THE COURSE, SO PAY IT NO MIND.
Oh, I say!
Little Ciel looks more like his father every day!
INDEED.
WE HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR HIM!


—IS THAT SO?
.....

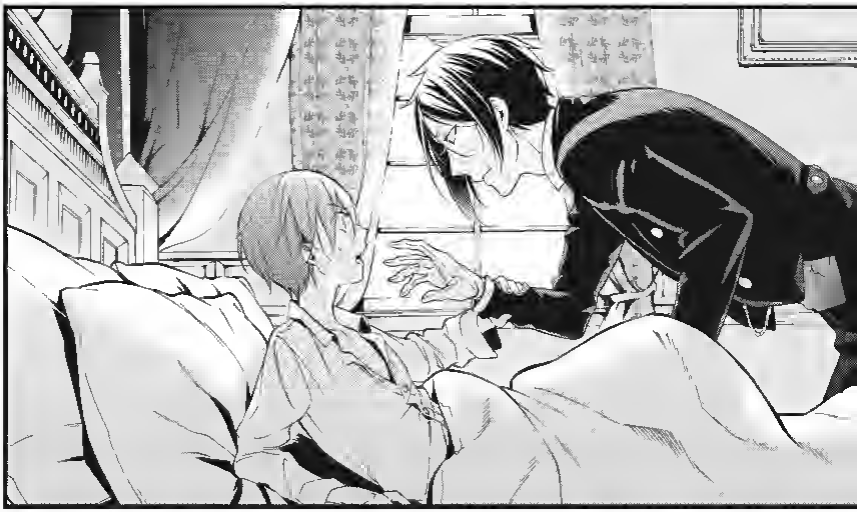
WELCOME BACK.
HAVE YOU FOLLOWED MY ORDERS?
YES, SIR.
HAAH
I'M TIRED.
I WANT TO HURRY HOME AND GO STRAIGHT TO BED
THEY DO SAY CHILDREN WHO SLEEP WELL GROW WELL.
.....
JI (STARE)
じっ...
...?
DO I HAVE SOME-THING ON MY FACE?

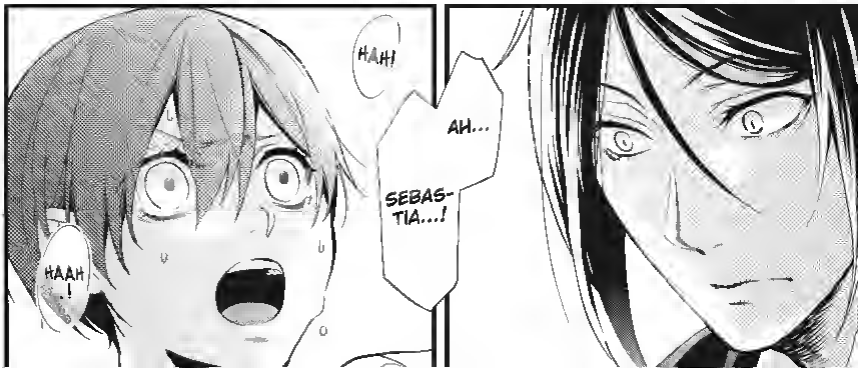
NO.
NOTHING.
?
GISHI GORE KO
キィ…
NO (GOD)
コッ…

MILORD.
Nn...
KOKU (GULP)
SURU (STROKE)

IL
SURU
NO.
NOT YET.
Is it morning ...
already?
SLEEP AWHILE LONGER.
IT'S STILL TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO AWAKEN.

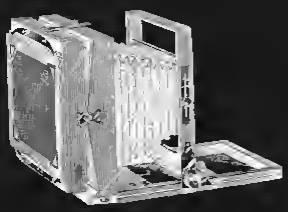
BASHI (GRAB)
!!
BIKU (JOLT)




HAH!
AH...
SEBAS-TIA...!
HAAH!

BURU (SHAKE)
GRIP
ARE YOU QUITE WELL?
BURU
YOU WERE MOANING DREAD-FULLY IN YOUR SLEEP, SO I THOUGHT I WOULD WAKE YOU.
SURU (SLIP)
HAH...
... YES.
HAAH...!
I'M FINE.
Y...
HAH!
HAH!
NO...
DID YOU PERHAPS HAVE ANOTHER NIGHT-MARE?

I'M FINE.
IT WAS NOTHING...



Black Butler

10th
Finnian
193p
HI, EVERY-ONE!
IT'S TIME FOR THE BLACK BUTLER CHARACTER POPULARITY POLL, "~THE BUTLER, CASTING A VOTE~" RESULTS...
...TO BE ANNOUNCED AT LAAAST!!
FU FU FU.
...THEN THAT MUST MEAN THE TOP SIX ARE PROBABLY THAT LOT... HMM?
IF I'M HERE...
CAN'T WAIT TO FIND OUUUUT
HE DOESN'T KNOW!
WHO CAN SAY?
IS CIEL AMONGST THE TOP SIX, DO YOU THINK?
8th
Elizabeth
295p
9th
Lau
268p
7th
Snake
325p
46th Snake's snakes 4p
W—
—SAYS EMILY.
THANKS FOR ALL YOUR VOTES!
THE TOP SIX— "THE DEVIL SIX"— WILL BE REVEALED ON THE NEXT PAGE.
WE'LL...ALL KEEP VOTING OUR BEST.
PEKO
PEKO

4th
Grelle
997y
2nd
Ciel
8158y
1st
Sebastian
4014y

6th Grey
841y
3rd Undertaker
1284y
5th Vincent
481y

Black Butler

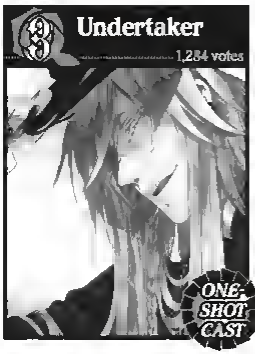
Character Popularity Poll

~The Butler, Casting a Vote~

12,817 votes total

POLL RESULTS

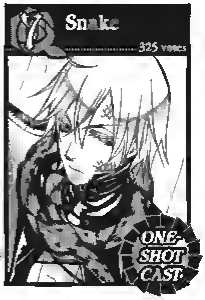
The Devil Six



10
Finny
193 votes
ONE-SHOT CAST

9
Lau
268 votes
ONE-SHOT CAST

8
Elizabeth
295 votes
ONE-SHOT CAST


7
Snake
325 votes
ONE-SHOT CAST

15
William
103 votes

14
Ronald
106 votes

13
Soma
112 votes

12
Tanaka
157 votes

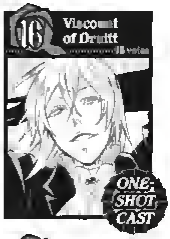
11
Joker
168 votes

20
Ran-Mao
74 votes

19
Madam Red
78 votes

18
Agni
93 votes

17
Mey-Rin
97 votes


16
Viscount of Druitt
98 votes
ONE-SHOT CAST

25
Diedrich
46 votes

24
Hercourt
54 votes

23
Violet
54 votes

22
Sullivan
58 votes

21
Edward
68 votes

30
Minerva
17 votes

29
Jaldo
21 votes

28
John
23 votes

27
Lau
25 votes

26
Claude Phipps
45 votes

34 Dagger · Alois Trancy (of the television animation *Black Butler II*) — 16 votes

33 Arthur · Cheslock — 15 votes

32 Nina — 14 votes

31 Francis — 13 votes

30 Rachel — 10 votes

29 Queen Victoria · Beast · Paula — 7 votes

28 Baron Kelvin · Maurice — 6 votes

27 Abberline · Jeremy · Eric Slingby (of the musical *Black Butler -The Most Beautiful DEATH in the World-*) — 5 votes

26 Irene · Snake's snakes — 4 votes

25 Redmond · Greenhill · Wolfram · Grete · Anne · the cats · Drossel Keinz (of the television animation *Black Butler*) — 3 votes

24 Chlaus · Lord Randall · Ludger · Bitter Rabbit · Albert · Alan Humphries (of the musical *Black Butler -The Most Beautiful DEATH in the World-*) — 2 votes

23 Rian · McMillan · Vice Headmaster Agares · Peter · unicorn suit · Claude Faustus (of the television animation *Black Butler II*) — 1 vote

22 Azzurro · West · Mina · Jumbo · Doc · Grimsby · Lord Siemens · Woodley · Phelps · Marquess of Midford · Derrick · Clayton · village crone · Hilde — 0 votes

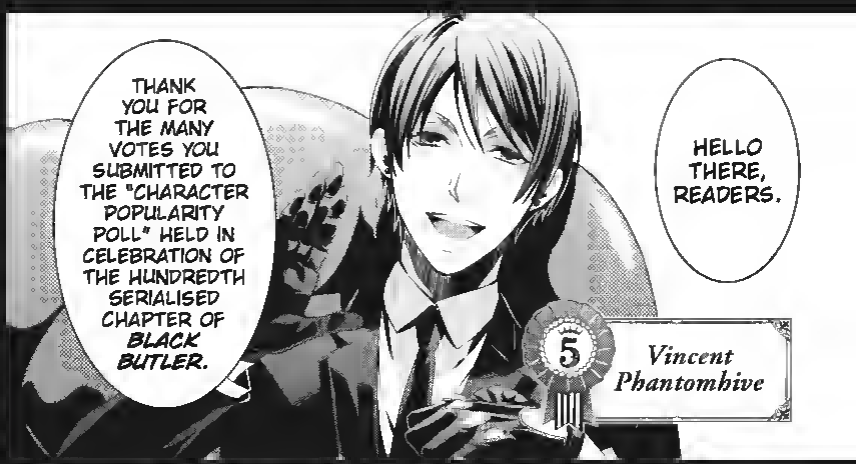
Thanks for all your many votes!

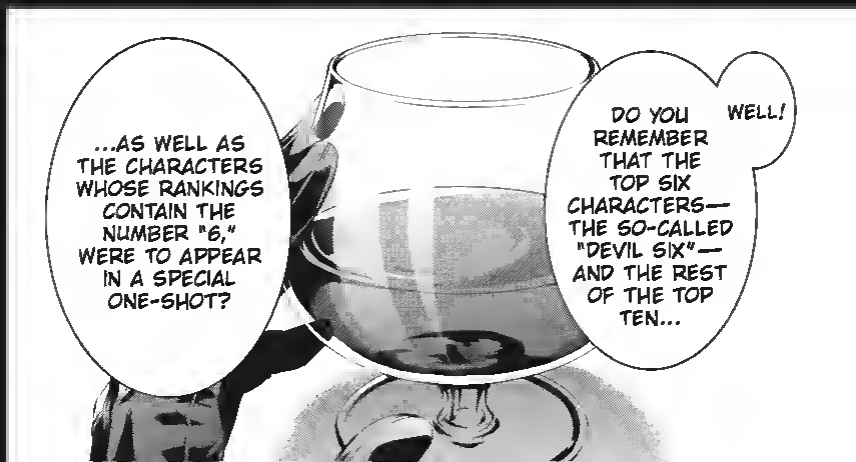
The bonus starring the Devil Six begins next.

BONUS CHAPTER

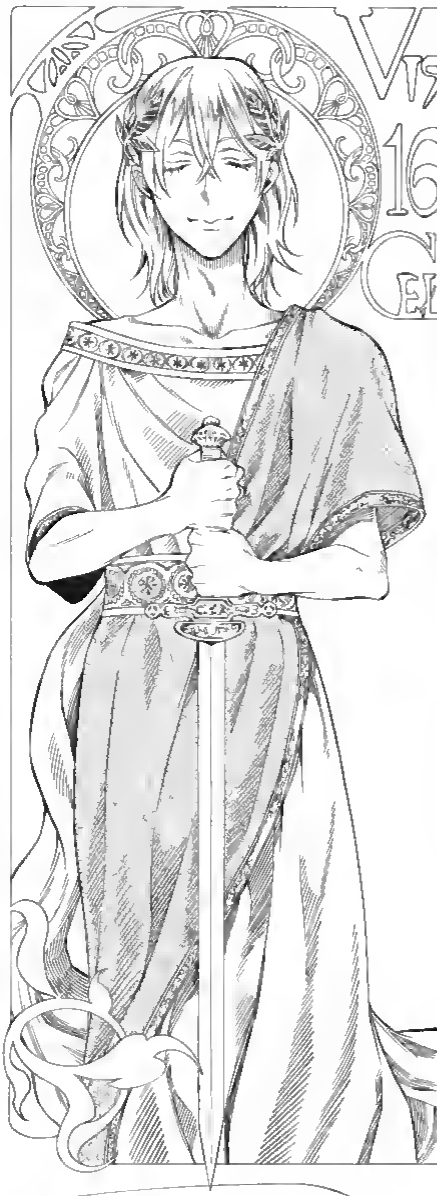
On a special day : The Devil Six, Uninhibited

KA
(FLASH)


HELLO THERE, READERS.
THANK YOU FOR THE MANY VOTES YOU SUBMITTED TO THE "CHARACTER POPULARITY POLL" HELD IN CELEBRATION OF THE HUNDREDTH SERIALISED CHAPTER OF BLACK BUTLER.
5
Vincent Phantomhive


WELL!
DO YOU REMEMBER THAT THE TOP SIX CHARACTERS— THE SO-CALLED "DEVIL SIX"— AND THE REST OF THE TOP TEN...
...AS WELL AS THE CHARACTERS WHOSE RANKINGS CONTAIN THE NUMBER "6," WERE TO APPEAR IN A SPECIAL ONE-SHOT?

...I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD GIVE RISE TO SUCH TRAGEDY.
HAA (SIGH)
WHEN WORD OF THIS PLAN FOUND ME, I TOO FELT IT WOULD BE MOST AMUSING, BUT...
I'M SURE...
...EVEN THE DEVIL HIMSELF COULD NOT HAVE IMAGINED THAT WOULD COME TO PASS.



Viscount Druitt's 16th Place Vote Celebration Banquet

By virtue of the ardent affections of the Black Butler readership bestowed upon me, I, the Viscount of Druitt, took glorious 16th place in the character popularity poll

I would therefore like to cordially invite the other chosen few to a celebratory banquet

I have some spectacular entertainment planned, so I do hope you will favour me with your rousing company

The Viscount of Druitt

THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT'S ...
...16TH PLACE VOTE CELEBRATION BANQUET!?
2
Ciel Phantomhive
RUB-BISH.
I SHAN'T ATTEND.
PF (TOSS)
HOW VERY LIKE YOU, YOUNG MASTER.
HEH!
APATHETIC AND SLOW TO ACT AS EVER.
1
Sebastian Michaelis
MU (SIGH)
YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO IRK ME WITH ALL OF YOUR SNIDE LITTLE COMMENTS...

WHILE I DO AGREE WITH THE "RUBBISH" PART...
...THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT HAS CAUSED TROUBLE ON SEVERAL DIFFERENT OCCASIONS PAST.
RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD
UNDERGROUND AUCTION
DOES THE MENTION OF "SPECTACULAR ENTERTAINMENT" NOT CONCERN YOU JUST A BIT?
.....
THE INVITEES ARE LIMITED TO THOSE WHO MEET THE RANK REQUIREMENTS.
AND LADY ELIZABETH IS ONE OF THEM.
HA (GASP)
AND AS AN ENGLISH GENTLEMAN— RATHER ...
...AS HE WHO CLAIMED SECOND PLACE IN THE CONTEST ...
...IT WOULD BE REMISS OF YOU TO DECLINE TO ESCORT A LADY, WOULD IT NOT?
RIGHT!!

LET'S ALL GO TOGETHER, YOUNG MASTER!
Snake
Snake's snakes
Finnian
INDEED, YOUNG MAN. YOU SHOULD GET OUT MORE!
—SAYS WORDSWORTH.
OH YES, YOU ARE PART OF THIS AS WELL.
YES!
—SAYS EMILY.
I'M SOOO EXCITED ABOUT THE PARTY!

HM?
BALDO, WHY DO YOU SOUND SO MUCH QUIETER THAN USUAL?
I THOUGHT THAT WAS DUST ON YOUR BALLOON, BUT IT'S YOUR BEARD, HUH?
PERHAPS THE LOWER ONE'S RANK, THE LESS PAGE TIME ONE RECEIVES?
I SEE... WHAT A CRUEL WORLD.
THAT'S SOOO MEAN!

I WISH I COULD GO TO THE PARTY TOO, I DOOO!
HOH! HOH! HOH!
YOU AIN'T GONNA SEE MUCH MORE OF US THAN THIS!

WOW!
WHAT AN AMAZING FEAST! AND THAT SONG IS SOOOO PRETTY!
AN EVENING BANQUET WITH A POPULAR OPERA SINGER PERFORMING LIVE...
...WHAT A MOST ARISTOCRATIC INDULGENCE.
THE VOICE BELONGS TO MISS IRENE DIAZ OVER THERE.
4.6
Irene Diaz
SU (STEP)
WHY, HELLO THERE, EARL.

9
Lau
I KNEW YOU'D SECURE A TOP SPOT.
CIEEEE!
CONGRAT-ULATIONS ON SECOND PLACE! YOU'RE CUUUTE AS EVER TODAYYY! ♡
36
Francis Midford
8
Elizabeth Midford
COME ON, WHY ALL THE DELAY?
YOU'RE HOLDING UP THE TOAST! SO GET MOVING!
THE TABLE FOR THE TOP SIX IS THIS WAY!
6
6
Charles Grey
AGAIN WITH THE LONG, MESSY BANGS, YOU TWO...
THE OBSCENE BUTLER IN FIRST PLACE THERE'S NO DECENCY LEFT IN THIS WORLD!
EH!?
ERM...
GUI CYANKO
WAH!

HEE! HEE..!
GREET-INGS, LORD EARL. LONG TIME NO SEEEE!
3
Undertaker
4
Grelle Sutcliff
BUT IT'S ONLY MY HEART YOU'VE STOLENNN ♡!
AH! ♡
SEBASTIAN DARLING!
OF COURSE YOU'RE NUMBER ONE, YOU CHARMING KNAVE!
5
CHIIIN (DING)
HEE! HEE..!
DEAR OLD DAD'S HERE TOO, YOU SEE?
YOU'RE RIGHT HERE NEXT TO MEEE, MILORD!
EH?
uh, RIGHT ...
HA HA HA!
THIS BANQUET IS RATHER NOVEL, HAVING A MEMORIAL PORTRAIT FOR A GUEST.

NO, THANK YOU. I, A MERE BUTLER ...
...AM NOT PERMITTED TO BE SEATED IN THE PRESENCE OF MY MASTER.
BESIDES WHICH...
WE'RE DOING AWAY WITH ALL THE FORMALITIES AND LETTING OUR HAIR DOWN TONIGHT!
SO YOU COME AND SIT DOWN TOO, SEBASTIAN DARLING!
...STANDING HERE WILL AFFORD ME REASSURANCE...
...IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.
KA CFLASHD

16
Viscount of Druitt
...I BID YOU WELCOME TO THIS EVENING'S PARTY IN CELEBRATION OF MY WINNING 16TH PLACE!
COMPATRIOTS WHO HAVE BEEN FAVOURED BY THE ABUNDANT AFFECTIONS OF OUR READERS...
NOW, TO THE BEAUTIFUL CHOSEN ONES...
...A TOAST!
IN GRATITUDE FOR THOSE WHO PAID FOR THE VOTING POSTCARD AND THE ¥52 STAMP OUT OF LOVE...
...I PRAY YOU ENJOY THIS BANQUET TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT!
CHEERS!

PACHIN (SNAP)
THE REASON I AM THROWING THIS SORDID LITTLE PARTY FULL OF MEN...
...IS—
SU (SWF)
WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, LET'S GET STARTED ON THE "SPECTACULAR ENTERTAINMENT."
WHA—!?
GASHAAN (CRASH)

MY TRUE MOTIVE, YOU SEE...
KO (CLACK)
...IS THIS!
5
A ROSETTE FROM THE RANKING ...?
I'VE STUMBLED UPON THE SECRET OF THIS WORLD.
THOSE OF THE LOWER RANKS HAVE NOT EVEN THE RIGHT TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE ON ITS STAGE...
...WHILE THOSE GRANTED A HIGHER BERTH ARE BESTOWED WITH POWER EQUIVALENT TO THEIR RANK!
WHICH MEANS ...
PUCHI (PIND)

WHA—!? THERE ARE ROSES BEHIND HIM ALL OF A SUDDEN!!
DOYO (STIR)
どよ
HOW CAN THIS BE...!? EVEN HIS LOOKS HAVE CHANGED!
BLOW (BLOSSOM)
...NOW THAT I'M NUMBER FIVE...
...I SHALL GROW EVER MORE BEAUTE-OUS!!
HEH HEH... AND THAT'S NOT ALL!
BA (WHAP)
BEHOLD!

Black Butler Spin-off Memories of Druitt —Chapter 1—

NON!
BARIIIN (SHATTER)
POSHU (STAB)

I SEE...
THE HIGHER THE RANK ON THE ROSETTE IN ONE'S POSSESSION, THE GREATER ONE'S CHARM AND TALENTS BECOME...
...AND THE MORE ONE IS ABLE TO MONOPOLISE THE PAGES OF THE STORY.
WHAT ABSURDLY POWERFUL ROSETTES!

I'M TELLING YOU I DON'T WANT TO WATCH THIS DRECK.
AWW? DONE AL-READY-YYY?
BUT I COULD FEEL THE PEALS OF UNENDING LAUGHTER COMING ONNNN'
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A MEAL. SPARE ME.

HYU (SWING)

HYO! (FLUKE)
OHH? BUT IT COULD PROVE INTER-ESTIIING!

HAAH!!
GAKIIN (CLANG)
WHA—!?
IN THAT CASE!
IF I TAKE IT FOR MYSELF, I'LL GET EVEN STRONGER SO I CAN PROTECT CIEL, RIGHT!?
BA (DASH)
OH!
IF THAT'S HOW IT IS, COUNT ME IN TOO!!

NO, WAIT!
SHE DOESN'T NEED TO GET ANY STRONGER!!
I APPROVE OF YOUR SPIRIT!!
JUST AS I'D EXPECT OF MY DAUGHTER ...
GET STRONGER... ELIZABETH!
BO (WHOOM)
BO
BO
...FIRST!!
HANG ON, I'M CERTAIN I GOT MY HANDS ON THAT ROSETTE...
ZA (SKID)
KUH ....!
G
GA
GA (CLANG)
GA

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO FIGHT YOU AT LEAST ONCE.
WHILE YOU TWO'RE BUSY WITH EACH OTHER, MASTER GARDENER'S MADE OFF WITH THE ROSETTE, YOU KNOW?
HAKURI (TWIRL)
YASHI (WHAT?)
AAAAAAH!!
YAYYY!! IT'S MIIIINE!!
MUKI (BULGE)
MUKI
ZUNOHO (SWELL)
NOMO
BUCHI (TEAR)
BUCHI
NOW I CAN BE OF EVEN MORE USE TO THE YOUNG MASTER!

MUKYAAAA (RIPPED)
WHAT DO YOU THINK, YOUNG MASTER!?
AM I EVEN MORE AMAZING THAN BEFORE!?
YOU'RE ALL OUT OF PROPOR-TION!!
GYAH HA HA HA HA!
HEE! HEE!
Y- YOU'RE NOT CUUUTE!
THAT'S JUST WRONG!
SHUDDER
GYUU...
GYUA (GLINT)...
IF I HAVE THAT ROSETTE...
...THEN MAYBE JOKER, WHO IS NUMBER ELEVEN, COULD MAKE AN APPEARANCE!
—SAYS OSCAR.
PA CLUNGE!
I BEAR NO ILL WILL, BUT I'LL MAKE THAT ROSETTE MINE!!
—SAYS WILDE!

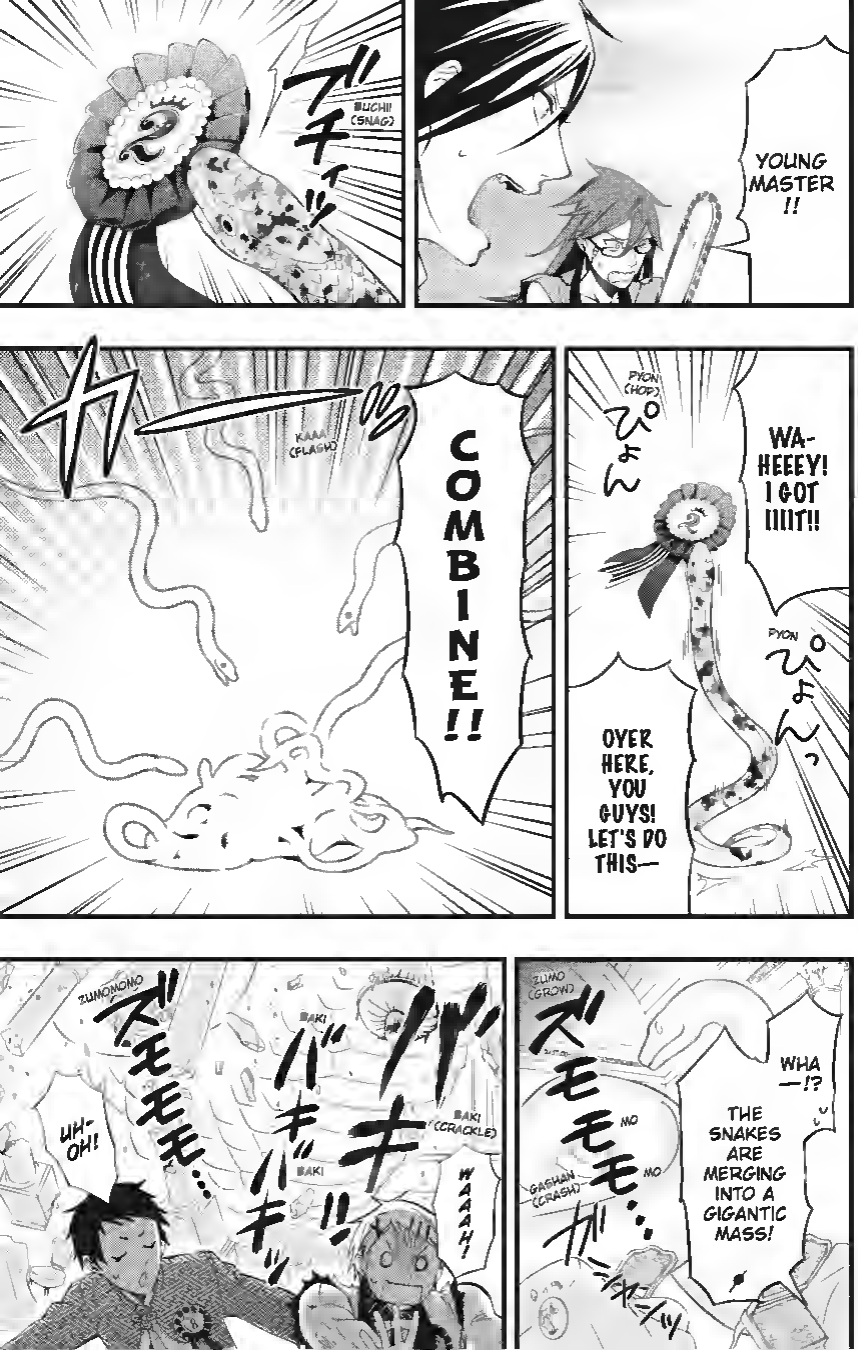
!?
GABU (CHOMP)
BUCHI (RIP)
BATA (WHUMP)
UGH ...!
WH-WHY ...!?
WHEEE!
MAYBE WE'LL EVEN GET OURSELVES SOME ARMS 'N' LEGS IF WE GET A HIGHER ONE!
ZUZO (SLITHER)
ALL RIGHT, GO GET 'EM!!
ZO
ZO
BAAAN (BAMMM)
BLIMEY! WE CAN TALK NOW!
YOU SEEM TO HAVE FOR-GOTTEN, SNAKE...
...THAT WE'RE ALSO AMONGST THE NOMINEES AIMING FOR THE TOP!!

GYAAAH! DON'T COME OVER HERE!!
IF IT'S A FIGHT YOU WANT, YOU GOT IT!
DOKAAAAN (KABOOOM)
YOUNG MASTER.
IT IS UNSAFE. LET US GET YOU OUT OF HARM'S WAY.
HA (GASP)
GYARARARA (YWEEEE)
GWEH!

WILLIAM'S PROXY
...IT WOULDN'T BE TOO MUCH TO EXPECT THAT I WOULD BECOME A FEMME FATALE OF SUCH ALLURE THAT THE MEN OF THE WORLD WOULD FALL TO THEIR KNEES, WOULD IT?
CONCEPTUAL DRAWING
SO IF I TAKE THAT BRAT'S NUMBER TWO ROSETTE...
NFUH!
I KNEW IT WOULD COME TO THIS.
I HAVEN'T MADE AN APPEARANCE IN AAAGES, SO I'M FAIR STARVING FOR THE TOUCH OF A HANDSOME DEVIL!!
YOU'D BETTER LET ME GET MY FILL!
GYARARARARA
ギャラララララ

GYARARARA
HEE! HEE!
I WOULDN'T EXPECT ANYTHING LESS FROM A PARTY THROWN BY MASTER VISCOUNT!
IT'S JUST A BARREL OF LAUGHS!
DOKAAAN (KABOOM)
WHAT IS ALL THIIIS —!?
DOES THIS SITUATION REALLY CALL FOR LAUGH-TER!?
GYARARARA (VWEEEEE)

ZURU (SLITHER)
UWAH!
AH!
RU
RU
RU
!?
YOU'RE TOTALLY OPEN, SMILE!
BA (SHOOM)


BUCHI! (SNAG)
YOUNG MASTER !!
KAAA (FLASH)
COMBINE!!
PYON (HOP)
WA-HEEEY! I GOT IIIIT!!
PYON
OVER HERE, YOU GUYS! LET'S DO THIS—
ZUMOMOMO
UH-OH!
BAKI
BAKI
BAKI (CRACKLE)
WAAAH!
ZUMO (GROW)
MO
MO
GASHAN (CRASH)
WHA—!?
THE SNAKES ARE MERGING INTO A GIGANTIC MASS!

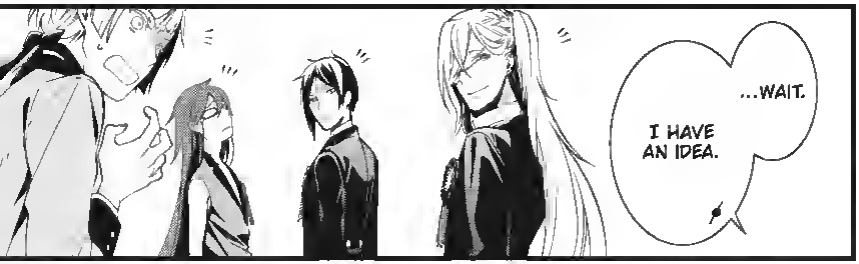
HOW IRONIC FOR THEM TO HAVE GROWN SO LARGE WITH THE YOUNG MASTER'S ROSETTE ...!
THAT'S THE NUMBER TWO ROSETTE FOR YOU. IT'S GRANTED THEM AMAZING POWER!
WHAT A SIGHT THIS IS!
I HEARD THAT, YOU.
OOOOO (SIGH)

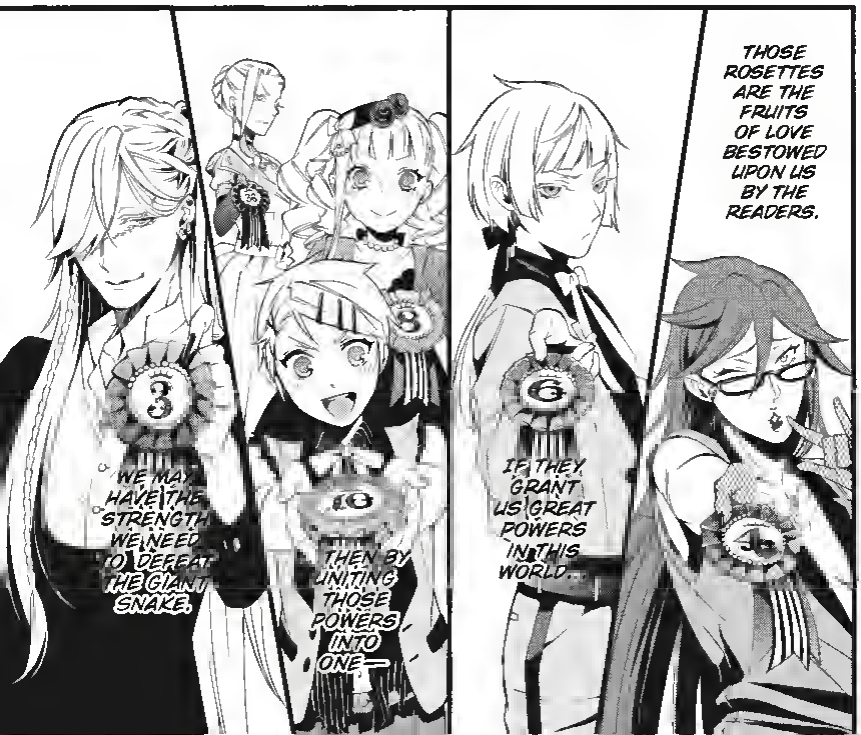
BAKYAA (SMASH)
KISHAAAA (SNARL)
GARA (CRUMBLE)
GARA

ZU
ZU
WE'VE BEEN MADE SIDE-SHOWS BY HUMANS LONG ENOUGH.
NOW WE'RE FREEEE!!
EEEEK

ALAS... YOUNG MASTER, WHAT A CRUEL TRICK OF FATE.
YOU ARE NO LONGER ABLE TO APPEAR ON THE PAGE...
ZU (SLITHER)
ZU
ZU
NEVER MIND THAT. IT'S HEADING FOR TOWN!

NO WAY AM I FIGHTING THAT!
JUST LOOKING AT IT MAKES ME SICK!
AWWW
HOW CAN WE DEFEAT SOMETHING THAT HUGE?
EVEN CHOPPING IT INTO PIECES WOULD TAKE ALL NIGHT.


...WAIT.
I HAVE AN IDEA.


WE MAY HAVE THE STRENGTH WE NEED TO DEFEAT THE GIANT SNAKE.
THEN BY UNITING THOSE POWERS INTO ONE—
IF THEY GRANT US GREAT POWERS IN THIS WORLD...
THOSE ROSETTES ARE THE FRUITS OF LOVE BESTOWED UPON US BY THE READERS.

SEBASTIAN, I COMMAND YOU!
DEFEAT THAT GIANT SERPENT!
YES, MY LORD.

YOU'VE COME AT LAST, YOU WILY BUTLERRR!!
SHAAAAA (HISS)
DOGO (KICK)
NOW, SEBAS-TIAN!
DAN (STOMP)
ダンッ

GOOOOO!!
DOSHU (FLING)
DOSHU (PIERCE)

KA (FLASH)
GYAAAH!
DO
DO
DO
DO (CRUMBLE)
UWAH!
DEAR ME. WHAT A TRAVESTY THIS BANQUET HAS TURNED OUT TO BE.
HERE YOU GO, YOUNG MASTER.
ZA (CSH)
MOU (HAIZE)
KOFF! KOFF!
AWWW, MY MAKE-UP'S RUIIINED ~!
MOU
WHERE IS SEBAS-TIAN?
SHUUUUU (FWOOSH)
PUCHI (PIN)

FU
CAPPEARD
I CANNOT HAVE YOU DISAPPEAR-ING ON ME.
WITHOUT A MASTER TO SERVE, I COULD NO LONGER BE A BUTLER.
I HAD AN INKLING THINGS MIGHT TURN OUT THIS WAY...
I HAD AN AWFUL TIME THANKS TO THAT DEVIANT DRUITT.
DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO EAT ANY OF THAT FOOD EITHER...
... HMPH.
...SO I HAVE PREPARED DINNER AT THE MANOR.

MOOOH!!

I'M SURE YOU RAN OFF RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF IT ALL!
LIAR!
AGNI COULD YOU THINK ANYTHING ELSE OF MEEEE!?
PUNI (POKE)
HM?
I WAS HERE ALL ALONG.

HYOKO (POP)
OH HOH!
LOOKS DEEELICIOUS!
THINK I'LL JOIN IN THE FEASTING BEFORE I GO!
LAU!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN THIS WHOLE TIME ...?

IT WOULD BE PRESUMPTUOUS TO THINK MYSELF A HERO...
KUSU (CHUCKLE)

STILL, I MUST SAY— YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT, MASTER BUTLER.
YOU'RE THE HERO WHO SAVED LONDON!

I AM MERELY...
...A DEVIL OF A BUTLER.
.....

.....
SO EVEN THIS ILLUSTRIOUS ROSETTE CAN'T BRING HIM BACK TO LIFE.
3
プチ
PUCHI (PIN)
3
—AND THERE YOU HAVE IT, THE EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED THIS EVE...

LOVE IS A WONDERFUL THING...
...BUT IT CAN ALSO GIVE BIRTH TO HORRIFIC DISASTER.
NOW, THEN!
I MUST BE GOING...
...BUT I DO HOPE THAT YOU'LL FOLLOW THE FATE OF MY SON AND HIS COMPANIONS THROUGH TO THE END.
WELL, EVERY-ONE.
GOOD-BYE.
To be continued in Black Butler 23

Black Butler
黒執事

Downstairs

Wakana Haduki
7
Saito Torino
Tsuki Sorano
Chiaki Nagaoka
Asakura
*
Takeshi Kuma
*
Yana Toboso

Adviser

Rico Murakami

•

Special Thanks

Akira Suzuki

and You!

Translation Notes

Inside Front and Back Covers

Black Diver

In the original edition, the word used for "diver" is *ama*(*san*), written with the kanji for "sea" and "woman." These divers, part of an historic Japanese tradition, are usually women and are known for diving for pearls

Page 30

Baden-Baden

Baden-Baden is a resort town located at the foot of the Black Forest in southwestern Germany. With its natural, medicinal springs, the town's tradition as a spa resort dates back to the Romans, but in the nineteenth century, it was de rigueur for members of high society to take the waters in what came to be known as the summer capital of Europe. The German word *baden* means "bath" or "to bathe."

Page 69

Savile Row

Originally an affluent residential street in central London, Savile Row became populated by tailors in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Most notable amongst them was Henry Poole, known for creating the tuxedo. As men of high standing flocked to Savile Row to be outfitted in the latest dinner jackets, the name of this street grew to be synonymous with bespoke, or custom-made, tailoring.

Page 69

Full court dress

A debutante summoned to the Court Drawing Rooms at Buckingham Palace to be presented to Queen Victoria was required to dress in a long gown, typically white in colour, with short sleeves, a low neckline, and a long train of a specific length. White gloves, a certain number of white feather plumes in the hair (the number was dependent on marital status), and a veil, again of specific length, were also compulsory. The carrying of a flower bouquet was also customary, though not mandatory.

Page 77

Alice style

This style of dress has its roots in Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, which was published in 1865 with illustrations by John Tenniel. Tenniel's depiction of Alice in a knee-length, puffed-sleeve dress with a pinafore became the definitive Alice in Wonderland.

Page 79

Higgins's Earl Grey

Established in 1942, H. R. Higgins (Coffeeman) Ltd. is an English tea and coffee merchant that holds a Royal Warrant.

Page 85

Formal court curtsy

When a debutante was presented to the queen, she was required to perform the exacting formal full court curtsy. To do this, she would have to bend her knees so deeply that they almost touched the floor, before rising to full height without losing her balance or her headdress or tripping over her train. It was not unheard of for young women preparing for their "coming out" to engage instructors to help them learn just how to succeed at the full court curtsy.

Page 87

Whitehead gag

The contraption Sebastian uses to perfect Lady Sullivan's and Wolfram's pronunciation is actually a medical device used in oral surgery known as a Whitehead dental gag, invented in 1877 by Walter Whitehead.

Page 144

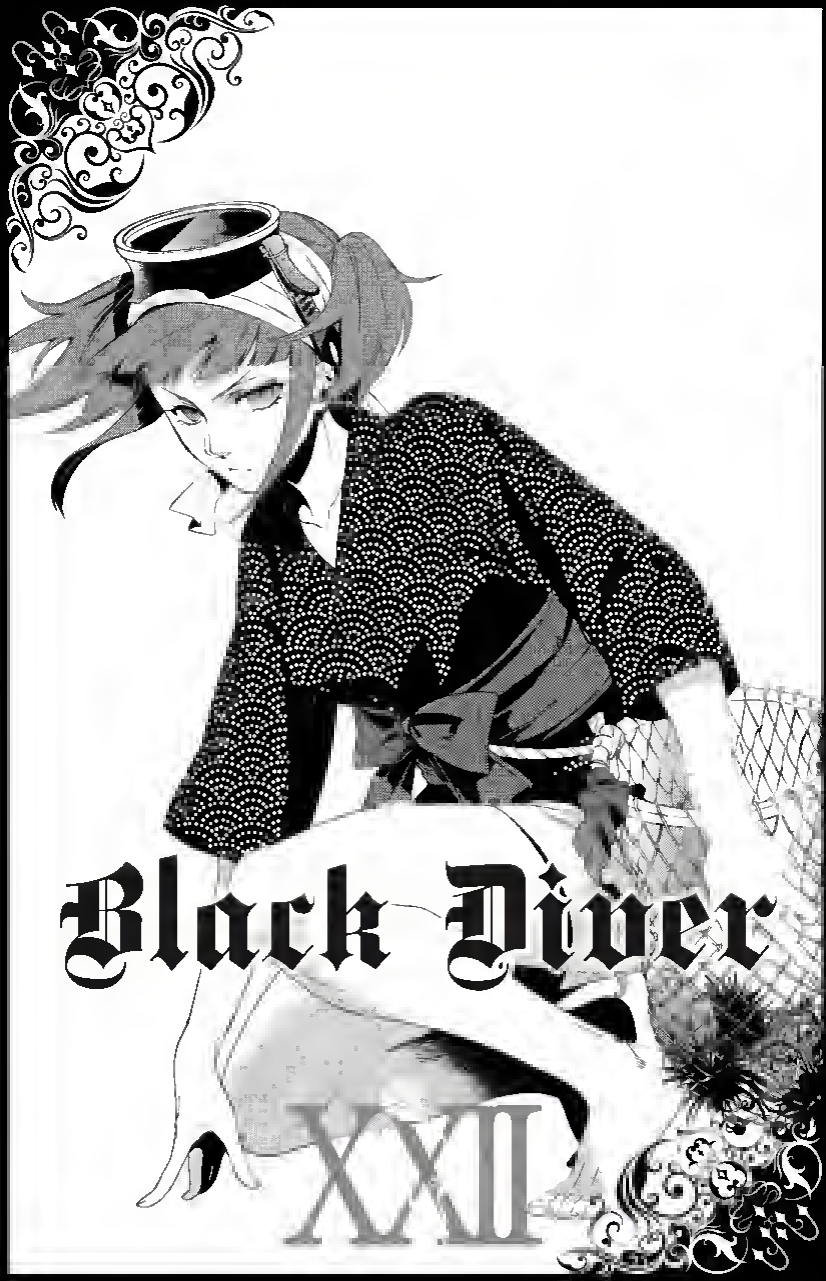
Vincent's portrait

The *chuun* sound effect used on Vincent's portrait is a reference to the striking of a ritual singing bowl (*rin*) with a padded wooden mallet during a Buddhist funeral.

Yana Toboso

Author's note

I've written here many times about wanting to visit Great Britain someday, and I finally did. It was my first visit ever, and all I encountered was beyond imagining. The people were nice. The scenery was beautiful. The food was delicious...but sometimes unbelievably awful. I'd like to make the most of my experience and devote myself to creating ***Black Butler***. And so this is Volume 22.


Black Diver
XXII

A sea-roaring love story in which a girl becomes a diver by chance after falling in love with a man at first sight and following him to the northeastern reaches of Japan. She dives for abalone and turban shells (or not) and draws attention as a too-cute-to-be-true diver (or not).

...or something.

BLACK BUTLER 22

Yana Toboso

Translation: Tomo Kimura • Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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